Trade of India, Reviews

1901-02, 1903-04 to 1905-06, 1907-08

to 1910-11

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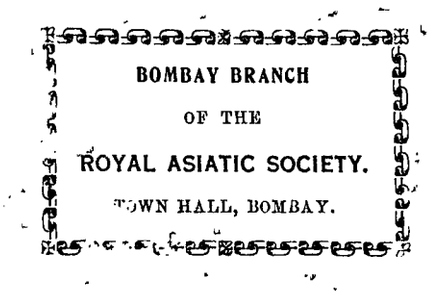


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# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

IN 134673

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1901-02., 1903-04 & 1905-06; 1907

1906

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C.,
and 32, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh,
or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

1902.

[Cd. 1287.] *Price* 4½*d.*

12519—800—9/1902 Wt P 1031 D & S 6

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# THE
# TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA
## WITH
## FOREIGN COUNTRIES

for the official year ending March 31, 1902

## General Summary

The value of the trade of the year is subjoined, with the values of the preceding four years for comparison. They are stated in rupees:

| | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Imports—* | | | | | |
| Merchandise | 69,26,66,625 | 68,38,03,412 | 70,71,18,634 | 76,27,78,853 | 81,47,08,170 |
| Gold | 7,28,12,221 | 8,84,00,542 | 11,44,78,674 | 11,87,13,827 | 8,29,76,205 |
| Silver | 13,19,50,644 | 9,04,39,025 | 9,51,06,458 | 4,59,22,253 | 11,35,07,591 |
| Total Imports | 89,74,29,490 | 86,26,42,979 | 91,67,03,766 | 92,74,14,933 | 101,11,91,966 |
| *Exports—* | | | | | |
| Foreign merchandise re-exported | 3,75,11,720 | 3,37,11,965 | 3,29,24,912 | 3,20,85,314 | 3,26,03,218 |
| Indian merchandise | 93,78,61,010 | 109,35,02,765 | 105,68,36,961 | 104,16,04,984 | 121,20,45,021 |
| Gold | 2,37,27,326 | 2,33,66,460 | 2,00,81,962 | 4,30,58,851 | 3,36,64,788 |
| Silver | 4,76,14,364 | 5,07,15,347 | 5,94,18,443 | 3,16,85,700 | 5,09,60,877 |
| Total Exports | 104,67,14,420 | 120,12,96,537 | 116,92,62,278 | 114,84,34,849 | 132,92,73,904 |

The shadow of famine hung darkly over the land in the first half of 1900-01, but lifted in the second half of the year, with the return of an ordinary monsoon followed by winter rains which, on the whole, favoured the growth of the great staples of Indian trade. Still the commercial and industrial features of the year bore eloquent testimony to the extent of the disaster which had supervened on the failure of the monsoon and the destruction of the crops in 1899. The traces of the calamity were, however, in great measure effaced last year, and the return of fairly good conditions for the pursuit of agricultural operations, which constitute the greatest industry of the country, was accompanied by the reversion of imports and exports to normal conditions and by a great increase in their dimensions. The imports of merchandise increased in value by 519 lakhs of rupees (£3,462,000), much of the increase indicating the restoration to the people of purchasing and consuming capacity and the resumption of industrial operations after the period of depression had passed away. Cotton goods and yarn increased by about 306 lakhs (£2,040,000), and there was a marked revival of activity in the imports of machinery and millwork, metals, mineral oils, railway material, coal, chemicals, and dyes. There was also an appreciable development in the importations of various other articles, some of greater, others of lesser, importance, such as tobacco, salt, sugar, precious stones and

pearls, apparel, carriages (which include bicycles and motor-cars), glassware, matches, paints and colours, paper. The only really significant reduction is limited to food-grains, and of these it may be said that, as they are not needed in India in an ordinary season, their large importation is a symptom of the existence of abnormal conditions and the disappearance of the trade may be regarded with satisfaction.

While the imports increased the exports which paid for them also increased, and the increase was in greater proportion, owing to the additions made to the sum annually drawn in Council bills. The exports of Indian merchandise increased by 1,704 lakhs (£11,362,000), the increase being at the rate of 16 per cent. Most of the improvement may be assigned to the agricultural products which are such dominating factors in the export trade. The return of a good season, with good harvests, led to a trade greatly in excess of that of the preceding year in rice, wheat, oilseeds, cotton, jute. The ability to supply these articles to the consuming markets found those markets ready to take them at profitable prices, and the trade of the year was on the whole of advantage for the exporter as well as for the producer.

The improvement in agricultural conditions which enabled the producer to put on the market large supplies of the articles just mentioned, was accompanied by other conditions favouring and encouraging the export trade. Money continued in good supply throughout the year, the Bank of Bengal rate not having reached 8 per cent until the 12th February, dropping again to 7 per cent by the 27th March. This was the third consecutive year in which the maximum did not rise above 8 per cent. The minimum rate of 3 per cent in July and August lasted for a little over a month. The course of exchange was perfectly steady throughout the year, ranging quietly from 1*s.* $3\frac{7}{8}d.$ to 1*s.* $4\frac{1}{8}d.$, and it may be said now that, after the experience of the last four years, importers and exporters alike have ceased to concern themselves about the course of exchange or to insure themselves against its fluctuations, the violent shocks which from time to time jerked and dislocated trade being confidently considered things of the past. It may be noted that while the rupee has as steadily maintained the value assigned to it as the silver coin of France, the changes in the price of silver have been as sudden and violent as in any former years, while its downward course has been unprecedented in swiftness and depth. The highest price of silver in the year was $27\frac{15}{16}d.$ an ounce, the lowest was $24\frac{13}{16}d.$ a difference of 12·6 per cent. As things stand, the vicissitudes of silver left the Indian market untouched, and their only effect was to qualify in some measure the restoration to normal conditions of our trade with China by the introduction of an element of uncertainty giving rise to speculative operations. Nevertheless the close of the period of disturbance in China and the gradual easing off of an overloaded market, combined with a fall in the price of cotton and a recovery in the value of yarn, brought renewed vitality to the Indian spinners of yarn for China, while spinners for the Indian market also found that the consuming capacity of the weaver, which had been seriously affected by famine, had been restored. The outcome of these more auspicious conditions was a resumption of activity in the Indian cotton industry and a very large increase in production and export.

The jute mills of Bengal also prospered as well as the cotton mills of other parts of India, and large sales of gunny bags and cloths were made, at profitable prices, for the local market and for export, at the same time that there was an active export of the raw material. On the whole, the principal features of the

export trade of the year were the renewal of activity in the shipments of food-grains and oilseeds, due to a good season and to favouring conditions of the market, and a large export of cotton and jute and of the manufactures of the cotton and jute mills.

While the return of agricultural prosperity was indicated on the one hand by an increased volume of trade in the articles mentioned, it was also indicated on the other hand by the return of the trade in hides and skins from the unprecedented dimensions attained in 1900-01 to ordinary proportions, this decline being as satisfactory in its way as the increase in the other articles mentioned. But it must not be assumed that the conditions of the trade were in all respects entirely satisfactory. In some important items, indeed, the restriction of exports indicated the continuance of depression which has caused anxiety to all interested in the progress of some of our large industries. The shipments of tea declined materially, more in value, by reason of a continued low level of prices, than in quantity, although in this also the decline was substantial. The reduction in quantity was partly due to voluntary restriction of output, but perhaps even more to climatic causes. Indigo also was exported on a reduced scale, as a consequence partly of an indifferent crop and partly of the contraction of cultivation under the discouragement of low prices. Nor was the reduction of exports followed by any material elevation of the low level of prices which was established when the synthetic indigo entered the market as an active competitor with natural indigo. The outlook for indigo planters does not seem more favourable than it did a year ago, but it is now recognised by them that their business has moved from the basis on which it stood in the days before dyers began to put into their vats dyes made in a chemical laboratory, and the recognition of the fact is the first step to the readjustments which the new conditions compel.

Opium was the only other article of prominence in the trade in which there was an important decline. This was due to a material contraction in the quantity of Malwa opium exported from Bombay, in consequence of the failure of the crop in the famine year in the States of Central India, where this description of opium is grown for export.

There was a heavy fall in Lac, but the exports of this article in the two preceding years were excessive, and the market is variable and fluctuating.

In 1900-01 the export trade of Bombay and Sind was reduced to a low level; but last year the restoration of ordinary conditions was attested by the prompt increase of exports from Bombay and from Karáchi. Into both ports also imports were actively brought, with too much activity indeed into Bombay where the speculative enterprise of dealers was somewhat discouraged by the unexpected slowness of recuperation in the districts which had been so sorely smitten by famine.

## Imports of Merchandise

The trade of 1900-01 was large, partly because prices of some of the staple articles of trade were on a high level. Last year the value was still larger, exceeding that of 1900-01 by nearly 7 per cent, but this increase was due to a greater volume of trade rather than to higher prices, for prices ranged at a lower level in 1901 than in 1900. There has been a conspicuous increase in the aggregate value of imports in recent years. It averaged annually in the five years ending 1898-99, R6,978·49 lakhs; in 1899-1900 it amounted to R7,071·19

lakhs, rising in the following year to R7,627·79 lakhs; while last year there was a further increase to R8,147 lakhs. A very large proportion of this increase occurs in the class of manufactured articles which constitute much more than half the articles imported. But there was an increase under the other heads too, with the exception of articles of food and drink and animals, these last being relatively of small importance. The relative dimensions of each of these large groups, and the changes in the aggregate value of each during the year will be seen from the figures appended (rupees):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|
| Animals, living (mostly horses) | 48,73,197 | 46,65,638 |
| Articles of food and drink | 12,07,25,412 | 11,70,65,098 |
| Metals and manufactures of metal, hardware and cutlery, machinery and millwork, railway plant and rolling stock | 11,87,16,379 | 13,15,41,820 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, dyeing and tanning materials | 2,22,56,241 | 2,40,95,992 |
| Oils | 3,75,70,198 | 4,21,89,079 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles | 3,70,75,368 | 3,81,62,948 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 42,15,62,058 | 45,69,87,595 |

When the items comprised in these groups are examined in detail, it appears that in only two of the important articles enumerated was there a decline. These two are woollen goods, in which a comparatively small decline followed a large increase in the preceding year, and silk, raw and manufactured, in which an abnormally extensive trade had been done in 1900-01 on a rather speculative basis encouraged by the high prices for an abundant harvest of rice in Burma. The importation of horses too in that year was unusually large, owing to army requirements, and last year there was a reduction to ordinary proportions.

## Articles of Food and Drink

*Sugar* bulks most largely amongst these, the value of the principal items comprised in the group being:

| | *R* |
|---|---|
| Sugar | 5,85,20,602 |
| Provisions | 1,98,46,721 |
| Liquors | 1,66,45,439 |
| Spices | 84,75,899 |
| Salt | 77,69,159 |
| Grain and pulse | 29,05,456 |
| Tea | 16,03,936 |

The value of sugar was quite half the aggregate value of all the items comprised in this group, and the progress of the trade has been watched with close attention on account both of its large dimensions and the operation of the countervailing duties levied on bounty-fed beet sugar. The importations of beet sugar were very large during the year, exceeding substantially the heavy imports of 1897-98 which led to the imposition in 1899 of the countervailing duties. Assuming the imports from the United Kingdom to be half beet and half cane, the quantity of each kind imported from all countries is as follows in the last six years (cwt):

| | *Cane* | *Beet* |
|---|---|---|
| 1896-97 | 1,795,871 | 886,592 |
| 1897-98 | 2,029,330 | 2,206,064 |
| 1898-99 | 2,238,619 | 1,526,291 |
| 1899-1900 | 2,063,477 | 872,515 |
| 1900-01 | 3,049,046 | 1,792,590 |
| 1901-02 | 2,491,907 | 2,936,196 |

But as there is little doubt that the imports from the United Kingdom are in fact all beet sugar, the quantity of beet sugar imported in the year may be taken to amount to 3,030,346 cwt, say 151,517 tons, the importations of the preceding year having been 95,000 tons, which was an increase of nearly 60 per cent. With the increased imports there was a heavy fall of price from which, however, there was a recovery after the close of the year. The countries from which these imports are mainly brought are these (cwt):

| | 1896-97 | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Beet—* | | | | | | |
| Austria-Hungary | 115,514 | 945,745 | 1,063,737 | 777,821 | 1,321,310 | 2,257,928 |
| Germany | 758,806 | 1,203,309 | 413,971 | 60,526 | 401,980 | 577,139 |
| United Kingdom | 6,161 | 23,192 | 17,783 | 32,712 | 59,636 | 94,150 |
| Other Countries | 6,111 | 33,818 | 30,800 | 1,456 | 9,664 | 6,979 |
| Total | 886,592 | 2,206,064 | 1,526,291 | 872,515 | 1,792,590 | 2,936,196 |
| *Cane—* | | | | | | |
| Mauritius | 1,488,851 | 1,406,047 | 1,793,607 | 1,417,115 | 2,085,156 | 1,759,203 |
| China | 139,310 | 291,175 | 185,682 | 316,975 | 487,445 | 182,767 |
| Java | 97,458 | 140,485 | 162,500 | 190,553 | 225,247 | 310,592 |
| Straits | 63,322 | 74,357 | 75,656 | 79,999 | 144,166 | 62,486 |
| Other Countries | 6,930 | 117,266 | 21,174 | 158,835 | 107,032 | 176,859 |
| Total | 1,795,871 | 2,029,330 | 2,238,619 | 2,063,477 | 3,049,046 | 2,491,907 |

Thus, of the aggregate quantity of sugar imported into India last year quite 54 per cent was beet sugar, and of this the great mass was imported from Austria-Hungary and Germany—141,753 tons out of the 151,517 tons imported, sugar of Austrian origin representing 112,896 tons. It must really have exceeded this quantity, for some of the sugar imported from Hamburg is known to be of Bohemian origin, but it cannot be specifically stated what the quantity is. It may, however, be taken as certain that Austrian sugar represents at least three-fourths of the beet sugar imported into India.

The figures given above illustrate in a very striking way the rapid progress made by beet sugar in recent years. In the first of the six years entered in the table the quantity of cane sugar imported was more than two to one of beet sugar; in the next year beet sugar exceeded cane sugar; the latter again dominated the situation in the three following years; but last year the imports of beet sugar greatly outstripped those of cane sugar. While the latter declined from all sources of supply except Java, the former increased greatly, the increase from Austria-Hungary being exceptionally large—so large as to induce sugar refiners in India to persuade themselves that the countervailing duties did not cover the whole bounty received by beet sugar, and after the end of the year a memorial was addressed to the Government praying for additional protection at least during the interval before the decisions of the Brussels International Conference take effect in September 1903. Action was taken as desired in the present month by the passing of a law imposing further additional duties on sugar imported from Austria-Hungary and Germany.

The greater part of the beet sugar imported, that is, well over two-thirds of the whole, was brought into Bombay and Karáchi, most of it into Karáchi, which port indeed received not much less than half of all the beet sugar imported into India. Much of this was sent northward into the Panjab and across the British frontier into Afghanistan and Kashmir. The demand in the Panjab was active in consequence of two consecutive bad or indifferent seasons for cane, and moreover imported sugar can be laid down more cheaply from Karáchi than Indian sugar brought into the Panjab from other provinces, the railway finding it expedient to concede favourable terms for sugar from the port. As the

waggons must be brought back thence hundreds of miles, empty or full, it is profitable to accept sugar at low rates for the upward run from the sea. There has also been a rapidly increasing export of sugar to Kashmir, which is now a health resort for hundreds of Europeans, all of them in comfortable circumstances and all large consumers of sugar, and there is a somewhat extensive industry in the manufacture of jam in Kashmir as there is in Simla. Before the invasion of beet sugar the consumption of sugar in Western India was in great degree limited to cane sugar from Mauritius. That also was consumed in Karáchi, where it was obtained from Bombay, while the Panjab depended mostly on local sugar, supplemented by small importations from the adjacent province. The importations of Mauritius sugar have not indeed decreased; they have, as the foregoing figures show, been on a large scale in the last two years; but beet sugar has, in just the last year, gone rapidly to the front, Mauritius sugar apparently not being able to find sufficient encouragement in the low range of prices which has prevailed. On the eastern side of India the consumption was limited, until beet sugar entered the market, to local sugar, made from cane and date, supplemented by importations of cane sugar from China, Java, and the Straits, and such sugar still occupies the most important place in the market, the importations of beet sugar being relatively small. They amounted to less than 43,000 tons last year imported into Bengal, a quantity which is only 30 per cent of all the beet imported. Madras imports but little beet sugar direct, but the greater part of such sugar consumed in the Madras Presidency is imported by way of Bombay; it does not seem to be a large quantity, however. Burma also imports but little beet sugar direct from the Continent, but there is a considerable importation from the United Kingdom (Greenock) supplemented by imports by way of Calcutta.

The price of beet sugar in India is on the whole regulated by the price in London, rising and falling here as it rises and falls there, and the price of beet sugar now governs the price of cane sugar, imported and domestic, at the ports and in all the large commercial and consuming centres throughout India. Hence the concern, one might say the consternation, caused by the recent rapid and heavy decline in the price of beet sugar. The course of prices began to take a downward track in September 1900, and, after fluctuating much during the next twelve months, again fell heavily and continuously from October 1901. The prices (per maund) since then have been as follows, in Calcutta:

| | *R* | *a.* |
|---|---|---|
| October | 8 | 3 |
| November | 7 | 14 |
| December | 7 | 6 |
| January 1902 | 6 | 15 |
| February | 6 | 11 |
| March | 6 | 10 |
| April | 6 | 7 |

This was the lowest point, followed by a recovery to R7-8, which was the average price in May.

It may be noted here that *the competition of beet sugar in Ceylon with the* cane sugar which used to be sent thither from Southern India has been found so strong that cane sugar has given way. *The export of refined sugar from* Southern India to Ceylon, which used to average some 24,000 cwt annually, fell in 1900-01 to 10,529 cwt and still further last year to less than 5,000 cwt, which may be taken to mean the practical extinction of the trade, at least for the time being.

The importation of molasses from Mauritius continued in the year on the same extensive scale as in 1900-01, about 21,224 tons having been imported, most of it into Calcutta.

*Provisions.*—From the point of view of values the place of next greatest importance after sugar, in the entries under articles of food and drink, belongs to *Provisions*, which slightly increased in the year to 198·47 lakhs, although the importations of *ghi* returned to their normal level after the exceptional trade in 1900-01 during the famine period. While it was no longer necessary to resort to the Persian Gulf for *ghi*, which Indian cattle were again able to supply in quantity equal to the demand, the importations of *dates* increased, as did those of *salted fish*, wet and dry, these being the most prominent amongst enumerated articles under this head.

*Salt.*—The export trade having been active enough to attract shipping to Indian ports in considerable numbers, *salt* was imported by steamers which were unable to obtain other profitable cargo, and the quantity imported was unusually large. The largeness of the importations was also influenced by the condition of the affairs of the Salt Union whose policy of maintaining prices at a high level had resulted in the accumulation of their stocks and the reduction of their dividend. The manufacture of salt in India was also, owing to seasonal conditions, not so large as in a favourable year. The importations therefore amounted to 516,231 tons, the imports of the two preceding years having been only 416,636 tons and 347,787 tons, respectively. The augmentation of the imports into Burma last year and the year before may be taken to indicate that a more effective excise control of local manufacture has been established. Importations from all countries increased very largely, the increase in the trade from Aden and the coasts of the Red Sea being especially noticeable, as well as from Germany. English salt was only just over half the aggregate quantity imported, whereas until recently, and the inauguration by the Salt Union of the policy of keeping up prices, it was the dominating factor in the salt trade.

*Liquors.*—The importations have increased. Malt liquor to the extent of 3,673,000 gallons was imported, most of it from the United Kingdom, the quantity from other countries not exceeding 237,000 gallons; but no doubt some of the beer imported from England is of German origin. However that may be, the consumption of German beer in India must increase very largely before the English brewer finds his market seriously attacked.

The increase in *Spirits* was not large, and the trade moves but slowly from year to year. The British distiller does not possess quite such a hold on the Indian market as does the British brewer, a large quantity of foreign spirits being received. Last year's imports were as follow:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom | 679,341 | gallons |
| „ France | 192,013 | „ |
| „ Germany | 209,378 | „ |
| „ other countries | 182,989 | „ |

Spirit from the United Kingdom therefore was only a little more than half the aggregate imports, and some of the imports from England consists of French brandy. The spirit imported from "other countries" is mainly rum from the Straits and arrack from Ceylon, imported into Southern India where these liquors are consumed by the native population, coolies who have consumed them during their residence in those colonies on planters' estates.

It may be noted that not all the spirit mentioned above is potable, some of it being methylated, or perfumed, or a vehicle for drugs. The proportions of

the different kinds of potable spirit imported in the year were (gallons):

| | |
|---|---|
| Whisky | 553,971 |
| Brandy | 302,059 |
| Gin | 73,215 |
| Rum | 40,671 |
| Other sorts | 149,721 |
| TOTAL | 1,119,637 |

While the imports of beer and spirit increase the consumption of *Wine* makes no headway, and taking into account the fact that the European population, who may be said to be the only consumers of wine, has increased, the habit of wine drinking seems to be distinctly on the decline. The importations in the year were limited to 300,672 gallons.

*Spices* were imported in smaller quantity, the demand for betelnuts, which comprise the largest proportion of this trade, having declined with a recovery in the production in Bengal.

The reduction of *grain* and *pulse* to less than a third of the quantity imported in 1900-01 is a return towards normal conditions, although these have not even yet been reached, for a value of 29 lakhs is much more than India paid for grain in the period antecedent to the famine. Possibly the permanent rise in the price-level of food-grains, which has been a prominent feature of recent years in Indian economics, may have the effect of attracting grain in larger quantities for the future than in the past.

The importations of *Tea* declined to about the level of 1899-1900, the fall indicating a diminished use of Bombay as a depôt for the shipment of teas to the regions served from the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan. Moreover, the prices of tea in the Indian market ranged on too low a level last year to offer an inducement for importation on an extensive scale for local consumption. The operations at present in hand for extending the consumption of Indian tea in India should have some effect presently on the importations of China tea.

## METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS

*Hardware and Cutlery*—

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | ₹ | ₹ |
| Cutlery | 9,71,700 | 9,64,948 | 12,11,227 |
| Agricultural implements | 7,22,156 | 8,37,520 | 6,97,286 |
| Other implements and tools | 11,88,273 | 11,77,439 | 9,41,765 |
| Sewing machines | 5,53,888 | 6,19,725 | 5,91,046 |
| Unspecified hardware | 1,24,66,904 | 1,48,15,107 | 1,36,25,051 |
| TOTAL | 1,59,02,921 | 1,84,14,739 | 1,70,66,375 |

Following on the large trade in 1900-01 there was a set-back in this trade last year, but the set-back was due rather to lower prices than to a smaller trade, except in regard to agricultural implements, the depression in the tea industry accounting for this decline. The Continent continues to supply about 26 per cent of the imports, and the importations of British goods have fallen below 70 per cent of the whole. The trade in German hardware and cutlery continues to be pushed, the very cheap goods made on the Continent for export to Asiatic and African markets finding an easy outlet in the Indian bazars.

In *Metals* the recovery of 1900-01 from the depression of the preceding year was followed by an increased and active import which was conspicuously large in copper and steel.

The importations of *Copper* fell to a very low level in the famine year, as usual in times of distress. This metal is largely used in India for the manufacture of articles of domestic use—plates, dishes, water-pots, and drinking cups—, and these in a time of stress are replaced by earthenware, the imports of copper for the time subsiding. In the last famine year the subsidence of the demand was accelerated by a sharp elevation of price brought about by a combination. The usual result of collapse followed in due course after a time, and prices began to droop early in the year, the fall being from about £80 a ton in March to about £63 by the end of the official year. This decline of prices and the return of prosperity accounted for some resumption of activity in the trade. But it is still so much below the level of former years, especially in those descriptions (tiles and other unwrought copper) which form the raw material of the brazier's industry, that it would have been interesting to know the condition of the braziers during the last three or four years, for they must have suffered severely from depression. In India, however, there are hardly any means of ascertaining the condition of an industry other than those conducted by Europeans, such as the tea and indigo industries, or which are worked by large joint-stock companies like the cotton, jute, and paper mills.

The heavy decline in copper and its slow recovery are sufficiently accounted for by the fact that nearly half of the whole trade is carried on at Bombay, the distress having been greatest in the districts supplied from that port. But some of the recovery is no doubt due to the demand for the metal, in wire and other forms, in connection with electrical apparatus. So much, however, is this trade a sort of economic barometer, measuring the presence or absence of pressure on the people, that the figures of the trade merit attention (cwt):

| | |
|---|---|
| 1896-97 | 240,648 |
| 1897-98 | 322,348 |
| 1898-99 | 251,301 |
| 1899-1900 | 90,846 |
| 1900-01 | 159,971 |
| 1901-02 | 193,822 |

*Iron* and *Steel.*—The importations of *Iron* were also on a larger scale, and an extensive trade was done, although the trade was not up to the level of the years before the recent years of scarcity. This, however, may be attributed rather to the fact that steel has been taking the place of iron than to any inelasticity in the trade by itself. The trade in both should be considered together, and so considered it will be found that the recovery from the recent depression has been complete (tons):

| | Iron | Steel |
|---|---|---|
| 1897-98 | 196,895 | 92,355 |
| 1898-99 | 164,517 | 84,145 |
| 1899-1900 | 149,097 | 72,636 |
| 1900-01 | 166,991 | 92,586 |
| 1901-02 | 180,642 | 158,916 |

From these figures it appears that last year's imports extended to 339,558 tons of iron and steel, a great advance on the 289,250 tons imported five years previously.

Bars are the commonest form in which both metals are imported, and bars of steel now largely exceed in quantity iron bars, the importations in both cases coming principally from Belgium. That country is the main source of supply now of bar and angle iron, as also of sheet iron (black), while from the United Kingdom is received the greatest proportion of the imports of sheet iron

(galvanised and tinned). Belgium also supplies a preponderating proportion of steel bars and sheets. The Belgian iron and steel imported into India are ordinarily of inferior quality, but being much cheaper than the metal from the United Kingdom they command a market which, like other Asiatic markets, considers cheapness first and quality afterwards. Nor need this be considered as affording reason for throwing hard words at the market, for in a poor and backward country, where industrial operations are so largely carried on in a small way by men of small means, it is but reasonable that they should select the article which, though not of the best, serves the purpose and is within their means. If British ironmasters feel inclined to obtain possession of the market (which, however, is but a small one compared with many others) they must offer it the quality the consumer is content with at the price he pays for the Belgian metal. The importations of the different descriptions of iron and steel from Belgium and the United Kingdom, were as follows last year (in tons) :

| | United Kingdom | Belgium |
|---|---|---|
| Iron bars | 8,550 | 30,931 |
| Steel „ | 5,991 | 35,108 |
| Sheets and plates, iron | 2,549 | 6,769 |
| „ „ steel | 13,503 | 16,536 |
| „ „ iron, galvanised | 43,746 | 197 |
| „ „ „ tinned | 11,532 | ... |
| Hoop iron | 2,913 | 1,648 |
| Hoop steel | 11,455 | 1,603 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod iron | 1,952 | 8,561 |
| Angle and channel steel | 6,734 | 3,012 |
| Beams, pillars, girders, bridgework of iron | 3,495 | 4 |
| „ „ „ „ of steel | 7,598 | 11,281 |
| Pipes and tubes, iron | 15,002 | 196 |
| Nails, screws, rivets, etc., iron | 3,073 | 3,481 |
| Other sorts of iron | 21,472 | 1,275 |
| „ „ steel | 6,581 | 23,154 |
| TOTAL | 166,146 | 143,756 |

Importations of *Lead* continue to be made mainly in the form of sheets for lining tea chests, the article being almost entirely of British manufacture. There was a rather large importation last year, although the yield of tea did not expand. There seems to be no particular reason why these sheets should not be rolled in India unless it is the relatively small dimensions of the market to be supplied, for the British manufacturer works for the markets of Ceylon, Java, China, and Japan, as well as for India, and the larger the scale on which such work is done the lower is the cost of production.

In *Tin* and *Zinc* there was some activity accompanying, as is always the case, the recovery in the trade in copper.

The advance in the imports of *Machinery* and *Millwork* to the value of ₹300 lakhs, which was a third larger than in the preceding year, is a satisfactory indication of improvement in the industrial position, although the imports into Bombay were not up to the level of the time before the depression in the cotton mills set in. The trade in Bengal was very active, largely in consequence of the rapid development in Calcutta of the demand for electrical machinery for traction, lighting, and fans. But there was a larger importation of machinery at all the other large ports as well as at Calcutta and Bombay, the meaning of which is that factories were working everywhere with renewed activity, and as the demand for tea machinery was not elastic the

other industries must have been more active than would appear from the imports.

The importations of *Railway material*, other than on Government account, do not seem to progress, but that is due to some extent to the increasing mileage which is constructed and maintained by the State. Importations of material by the State were large, the two together being, for Companies ₹1,53,72,336, for the Government ₹3,54,96,602.

## Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning Materials

The trade in *Chemicals* increased, following an increase in the preceding year, although a set back in chemicals for paper-making was one of the accompaniments of the severe depression which has overtaken the Bengal paper-making industry to which reference is made elsewhere.

The further increase in *Tobacco* is due in some degree to a revival of imports of unmanufactured tobacco, but in large degree to the quick growth of the trade in cigarettes which have taken the fancy of the people in a notable way, at least of the town-dwellers. The cigarettes imported in the year represented a value of about 21 lakhs of rupees, only a portion of these being of the descriptions consumed by Europeans. Cigarettes from the United States were valued at ₹5,94,332, these being mainly of the cheap kinds consumed by natives, more especially by natives of the lower classes. It would seem that there might be profit in the Indian manufacture of cigarettes now, if some of the cigar factories of Southern India were to take the business up. They would have to import the paper, for paper of the sort needed for cigarettes cannot be made in India.

The temporary contraction in 1900-01 of the trade in *Aniline* and *Alizarine dyes*, due to the reduced purchasing power of the people of Western India where most of the trade lies, was succeeded by a complete recovery last year, and the trade was very active, reaching a value of ₹65,74,638. The quantity imported was just under nine million pounds, pretty equally divided between alizarine and aniline, the former rather predominating, being the cheaper. The trade was in the main, as it has always been, from Belgium and Holland, much of the imports being, however, of German origin. It is possible that British dyes may now try the market, for a representative of the English company which manufactures these dyes visited India last cold weather to investigate the market. But the Continental manufacturers, represented in the main by the well-known Badische Fabrik, whose operations with synthetic indigo have so rudely interfered with Indian indigo in the European markets, have secured a strong position for their dyes here. It may as well be noted that a large proportion of the dyes imported is adulterated in varying degrees with coloured, not colouring, matter.

## Oils

*Mineral Oil.*—The consumption of kerosene oil for illumination has been actively stimulated by the substitution of oil imported in bulk in tank vessels for oil imported in cases, and the consequent facility of obtaining Russian oil, which is much cheaper than the American oil in cases which formerly held the market. Last year's importations of kerosene oil approximated to 91½ million gallons, of which about 84½ million gallons were of Russian origin. Of American oil

only $5\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons were imported, the importations in the two preceding years being $12\frac{3}{4}$ and 5 million gallons respectively. American oil in fact is out of the reach of the native consumer by reason of its price, and when it held the market the consumption was in the main restricted to the European community and to street-lighting. For these purposes the use of mineral oil does not now expand owing to the introduction of gas and electricity, and for native use the cheapness of the Russian oil commends it, the cheapness of the German and Austrian lamps in which it is burnt aiding in the expansion of use. It is stated that the Standard Oil Company of New York are now arranging to substitute the sale of oil imported in bulk, like the Russian imports, for oil imported in cases. If the arrangement is carried into effect the competition between the American and Russian oil will recommence with vigour, and the consumer will benefit by lower prices.

Russian oil having practically superseded American oil, it is now in turn undergoing active competition from Burman oil, the production of which last year is reported to have amounted to about 50 million gallons, representing probably at least 25 million gallons of kerosene, of which $15\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons were shipped from Rangoon to ports in India, besides lubricating oil. But little mineral oil is used in India besides kerosene, only about $7\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons having been imported last year, this being lubricating oil; but the trade increases with the extension of mills and railways.

The trade in kerosene is now one of principal importance in the list of Indian imports, the value of it reaching $351\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs last year, and other mineral oil representing a further 32 lakhs, the total value of the trade in mineral oil thus reaching close on 384 lakhs.

## Raw Materials

*Coal.*—The minds of some people seem to have been disturbed by the revival of the import trade in coal, and they have given expression to apprehensions that the Indian coal trade was being placed under heavy restrictions by the action of the railways in respect of the conveyance of Indian coal. There does not seem, however, to be much substantial foundation for the indignation and alarm that have been expressed, for the whole quantity of coal imported (including in that term coke and patent fuel) only reached 230,000 tons, the Government having imported 55,769 tons more, say 286,000 tons altogether, compared with an Indian production of 6·63 million tons. The quantity imported was about double the imports of 1900-01, but that year was exceptional in consequence both of the high prices of English coal and the depression of the cotton manufacturing industry in Bombay where most of the coal is landed. But, although there has been an expansion of trade following a temporary depression, the trade is very much more limited than in former years. The proportions and decline of the imports will be better appreciated when it is observed that whereas 703,341 tons of coal were imported by the public and by Government in 1892-93, ten years ago, there were only 285,786 tons imported last year, which is a decline of 59 per cent. Two circumstances should be borne in mind in connection with this matter: (1) most of the imports are required for Bombay and Karáchi, and in the conditions of transport which still exist in India these two ports are about as easily supplied from Cardiff as from Calcutta; (2) some of the imported coal is required, for special purposes, of a quality not produced in India. There can be no doubt

that in the near future even the present limited importation of coal must be very appreciably further restricted; but it is not necessary to assign blame anywhere because the conditions which arose out of exceptional causes ceased to exist when the causes were removed.

*Cotton.*—The importation of raw cotton, especially of the longer-stapled varieties—Egyptian and American—fell heavily last year from the relatively high level in the two preceding years. The price of Indian cotton was lower, with a better crop, and the experiments in the production of yarn of No. 40 and upwards were pursued on a smaller scale when the demand for the coarser yarns revived and the mills were again at full work. There was but little reduction, however, in the spinning of counts from No. 31 to No. 40; but these were spun from cotton imported in the preceding year. The importation of long-stapled yarn was limited to 42,708 cwt, the trade in the preceding year having reached 173,338 cwt. The yarn of No. 31 and upwards spun in the Bombay mills was 11·2 million lb, the quantity spun in the preceding year having been 11·08 million lb.

## Manufactured Articles

*Cotton yarn.*—The imports (38·3 million lb) were larger than in 1900-01 (34·8 million lb), when the trade was abnormally small owing to a higher range of prices and the distress which prevailed; but the dimensions of the business were very much smaller than in previous years. As usual the bulk (four-fifths and more) of the imports consisted of the finer counts from No. 30 upwards:

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 30 . . | 10,283,000 lb | 8,021,527 lb | 7,408,346 lb |
| „ 31 to 40 . . | 26,360,000 „ | 20,226,936 „ | 23,860,468 „ |
| Above 40 . . | 4,241,000 „ | 4,373,812 „ | 4,405,299 „ |

There is some interest in noting the contrast between the qualities of yarn made in India and of the imported yarn, as indicated by the following figures of trade and production last year:

| | *Imported yarn* million lb | *Indian yarn* million lb |
|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 30 . . | 7·4 | 559·41 |
| „ 31 to 40 . . | 23·86 | 12·61 |
| Above No. 40 . . | 4·4 | ·91 |

Thus the coarser counts of yarn are imported only in the proportion of 1 to 75 of local spinnings, while the imports of Nos. 31 to 40 are 2 to 1 of the local spinnings. In both cases, the finest yarns, above No. 40, are of very small importance, for the finer fabrics are woven in but small quantity in India and of particular descriptions, the muslins and other fine classes of cotton goods being imported much more cheaply and in greater and more pleasing variety than is obtainable in local manufacture. It may be added that in the production of yarns of counts between 30 and 40 the Indian mills have made such rapid advances in recent years as to point to the serious reduction of importations of these counts in the near future, and it is not doubtful that the importations of lower counts will practically cease when the Indian mills set themselves seriously to supply the Indian demand which hitherto has been somewhat unduly neglected in favour of the China market. Much of this yarn is coloured yarn, imported into Burma for the hand-weaving which is so much practised in that country as a domestic occupation of the women.

*Cotton goods.*—In this trade, which still represents about 36 per cent of the aggregate value of imported merchandise, there appears to be a gradual change and shifting of the business from grey (unbleached) piece-goods to the other two classes, namely, white (bleached) and coloured and printed goods. The bulk of the imports still consists of grey goods, but the proportions not only do not increase but have rather declined; and, considering the increase of population, the decline is even greater than it would seem from the figures to be. The conditions were no doubt affected in the last two years by the prevalence of scarcity and distress so intense that, even at this moment of writing, subscriptions are being invited by a leading Bombay newspaper (the *Times of India*) to a fund for the provision of clothing for the destitute in Gujarat. But in the case of grey piece-goods the non-progressive character of the trade has been apparent for many years, and so has the progressive character of the other two classes, as will be seen from the figures appended, which are the quantities imported (in millions of yards):

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured, printed, or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average 1889-90 to 1893-94 | 1,223·47 | 368·62 | 374·16 | 62 |
| Average 1894-95 to 1898-99 | 1,209·77 | 418·58 | 351·49 | 61 |
| 1899-1900 | 1,274·91 | 444·55 | 471·88 | 58 |
| 1900-01 | 1,192·17 | 467·48 | 343·16 | 59 |
| 1901-02 | 1,186·76 | 580·09 | 422·86 | 54 |

Here we see a continuous decline, with the exception of the famine year in the percentage of grey goods in the total importations, from 62 per cent to 54 per cent. This gradual shifting may be regarded as due to two reasons. In the first place the increase in the weaving capacity of the Indian mills has steadily affected the demand for imported goods of similar classes. In the second place there can be no doubt that fashion is veering towards the use of white and coloured garments where hitherto grey goods were almost exclusively used. This is a conspicuous feature in some cities and towns to-day where touches of colour are seen in every street which formerly exhibited only the monotone grey of the unbleached, and mostly unclean, cloth. In Burma also, where the love of colour is universal, the increase of population has been followed by a still greater increase in the importation of coloured cloths, with white cloth for the women's jackets. This newly created desire for white and coloured cloth amongst the people in India and Burma has no doubt been stimulated by the cheapness of the bleached and dyed cloths which many Indian mills now make, and by the ease and convenience with which a faded coloured cloth can be brightened and freshened up in the wearer's own house by the cheap mineral dyes now made familiar in almost every Indian home. It seems probable therefore that in course of time the great trade which is still done in unbleached cottons will decline and be superseded in a large degree, if not entirely, by bleached and coloured goods, India in that respect following the example of other peoples as they advanced in civilisation and well-being. The principal descriptions of unbleached goods, and the manner in which they are gradually being discarded for similar fabrics, bleached and coloured, will be seen from the figures appended, which state the imports in millions of yards:

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Shirtings:* | | | |
| Grey | 586·28 | 539·87 | 530·29 |
| White | 60·24 | 87·28 | 87·14 |
| Coloured | 73·45 | 51·23 | 61·8 |

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Chádars, dhutis, sáris and scarves:* | | | |
| Grey | 512·58 | 459·32 | 471·58 |
| White | 63·54 | 54·53 | 59·41 |
| Coloured | 44·27 | 48·75 | 47·6 |
| *Jaconets:* | | | |
| Grey | 84·64 | 96·7 | 90·44 |
| White | 22·33 | 27·08 | 36·57 |
| Coloured | 6·56 | 3·86 | 5·09 |
| *Mulls:* | | | |
| Grey | 19·58 | 29·93 | 23·2 |
| White | 93 | 117·66 | 132·66 |
| *Drills, jeans, sheetings:* | | | |
| Grey | 19·77 | 24·81 | 20·99 |
| White (drills and jeans) | 4·87 | 6·84 | 5·86 |
| Coloured (drills) | 6·06 | 4·75 | 5·51 |

The first three of the five classes of goods above specified comprise the bulk of the trade in unbleached goods, and it is at once clear that the competition of bleached and coloured goods with these important classes is very active. There are some other descriptions of goods which are confined to the one class, grey, white, or coloured, as the case may be, or (in one case) to two. The importations of these in the years specified have been as follows (in millions of yards):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Grey:* | | | |
| Madapollams | 33·95 | 25·45 | 34·2 |
| T-cloths and domestics | 15·31 | 15·09 | 14·66 |
| *White:* | | | |
| Nainsooks | 160·56 | 133·27 | 208·8 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins, lawns | 10·61 | 17·01 | 14·94 |
| Checks, spots, stripes | 7·2 | 6·59 | 12·4 |
| *Coloured:* | | | |
| Prints and chintz | 161·07 | 109·28 | 151·92 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins | 93·68 | 53·69 | 74·78 |

Unbleached T-cloths and domestics, which are made from the coarsest counts of yarn, are a staple manufacture in the Indian mills, and the importations of such goods have fallen in recent years to a low level. The Indian mills possess such advantages for the manufacture of goods of this class that it is highly probable the import trade will not long survive the competition. The active trade in nainsooks, as also in prints and chintz, is noticeable. These last mentioned articles, it may be mentioned, are in demand across the Indian border, in Afghanistan and Persia, where Russian chintz is a common object in the bazars. It seems clear, in any case, that the importer may take note of the fact that in the future his agency will be needed more for the supply of white and coloured than of unbleached goods. Already the quantity imported of the former two classes is almost equal to the quantity of the latter, and presently must exceed it more and more. The Indian mills are giving increasing attention to the production of white and coloured cloths, many of them of excellent quality and good finish. The khaki drills of the Buckingham mills in Madras are conspicuously good, as are the coloured cottons made there and in some of the Bombay mills in imitation of tweeds.

The extent to which the cotton piece-goods imported into India are a British trade is shown in the figures appended (million yards) :

| | 1899-1900 | | 1900-01 | | 1901-02 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | from England | Total | from England | Total | from England |
| Unbleached goods . | 1,274·91 | 1,270·47 | 1,192·17 | 1,183·28 | 1,186·76 | 1,178·46 |
| Bleached ,, . | 444·55 | 438·64 | 467·48 | 461·83 | 580·09 | 574·38 |
| Coloured ,, . | 471·88 | 457·28 | 343·16 | 327·04 | 422·86 | 401·23 |

If it is assumed that tissues imported from the United Kingdom are of British origin, which is probably almost, if not entirely, the case, then in the case of grey and white goods the British manufacturer has an almost complete monopoly, 99·3 and 99 per cent respectively, of these two classes having been imported last year from the United Kingdom. In coloured goods the monopoly is not so complete, importations from the United Kingdom representing only about 95 per cent of the whole. The small balance consists of French and German prints and chintzes.

The aggregate value of the imports of cotton yarns and woven and other goods in the last five years was (in millions of ₹) :

| | Yarns | Woven and other goods | Total | Proportion to total imports of merchandise |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1897-98 . . | 34·93 | 229·02 | 263·95 | 38 per cent |
| 1898-99 . . | 25·52 | 246·78 | 272·3 | 40 ,, |
| 1899-1900 . . | 24·5 | 270·02 | 294·52 | 42 ,, |
| 1900-01 . . | 24·89 | 273·46 | 298·35 | 39 ,, |
| 1901-02 . . | 26·47 | 302·48 | 328·95 | 40 ,, |

The importations of manufactures of *Silk* and *Wool* are unimportant in comparison with the imports of cotton manufactures. In most parts of India the climate and the habits of the people discourage the extended use of woollens, and they are worn mainly by the better classes in Northern India and then only in the colder months of the year. Nor is the use of woollen bed clothes at all a habit amongst them, the quilted razai of cotton, or the cotton sheet, taking the place of the blanket very commonly. As for silk the people are too poor, speaking generally, for the possession of even the one garment of silk which in so many other countries is brought forth for wear on high days and holidays. In Burma alone is silk commonly employed for apparel. A large proportion of the imported silks and woollens is needed for European use, and for the rest consumption is confined to the well-to-do classes, is not always common even with them, and is therefore strictly limited in comparison with cottons. The value of silks was last year 14·8 millions of rupees and of woollens 19·7 millions. In both cases there was a set-back after the speculatively large trade of the preceding year, as was anticipated, but the two years' trade together was above the average. It may be mentioned, however, that cotton shawls are being imported, made in imitation of the woollen shawls which have become a somewhat conspicuous aspect of the winter-clad Bengali, and are displacing them to some extent both in Bengal and Burma. Whether made of cotton or of wool, the manufacture of these shawls might very well attract the attention of the Indian millowner.

*Other manufactured goods.*—Of the other articles enumerated in this class the following are the most important:

| | 1899-1900 ₹ | 1900-01 ₹ | 1901-02 ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel, including boots and shoes | 1,46,43,066 | 1,53,97,776 | 1,69,41,441 |
| Arms and ammunition | 25,31,460 | 23,45,770 | 27,19,771 |
| Books and printed matter | 22,80,961 | 22,86,837 | 25,56,233 |
| Building materials | 19,14,452 | 21,35,379 | 20,89,497 |
| Carriages and carts | 26,48,112 | 23,51,867 | 30,99,399 |
| Earthenware and porcelain | 19,90,369 | 20,14,754 | 25,99,868 |
| Glass and glassware | 76,66,515 | 75,51,762 | 92,53,270 |
| Instruments and apparatus (scientific) | 24,01,273 | 32,33,729 | 33,45,636 |
| Matches | 34,75,938 | 39,80,573 | 43,65,854 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 34,71,505 | 40,39,848 | 42,89,551 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 41,13,201 | 45,29,996 | 52,71,634 |
| Stationery | 29,37,653 | 31,68,746 | 32,28,576 |
| Tea chests | 14,74,255 | 22,70,708 | 10,17,068 |
| Umbrellas | 27,30,307 | 27,00,332 | 18,04,231 |

In the case of tea-chests the decline was only a reaction after the very large trade of the preceding year. In the case of umbrellas it appears that the importation of the finished article is being interfered with by the importation of the parts which are put together and covered locally. In respect of all the other articles there has been a continued increase of trade indicative of the existence of generally satisfactory conditions. There is, however, an exception to be noticed in the paper trade, for the increase in the imports has unfortunately been accompanied by, and has indeed been the cause of, a serious depression in the paper-making industry in Bengal. The British and other European paper-makers have been able to undersell the local mills by the importation at low rates in large quantities of paper of attractive appearance made from wood pulp, which has been freely purchased by printers and others in preference to the less attractive, if more durable, paper made from grass, gunnies, and rags, in the Bengal mills, and most of these are at present in great straits. The importation of printing paper has steadily enlarged in the last few years, from 4,550 tons in 1898-99 (in itself a great increase on previous years) to 6,077 tons last year, an increment of 33 per cent in four years.

The articles which are most conspicuous in the import trade are enumerated in the appended list, with the value of last year's trade set against each in rupees (000 omitted):

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Cotton manufactures: | | |
| Grey piece goods | 1457,34 | |
| White „ | 784,38 | |
| Coloured „ | 673,44 | 3289,49 |
| Yarn | 264,70 | |
| Other sorts | 109,63 | |
| 2. Sugar | | 561,77 |
| 3. Mineral oil | | 383,77 |
| 4. Machinery and millwork | | 300,59 |
| 5. Iron | | 290,40 |
| 6. Provisions | | 198,47 |
| 7. Woollen manufactures | | 196,95 |
| 8. Steel | | 196,53 |
| 9. Hardware and cutlery | | 170,66 |
| 10. Apparel | | 169,41 |
| 11. Railway material | | 153,72 |
| 12. Silk manufactures | | 148,47 |
| 13. Precious stones and pearls | | 111,04 |
| 14. Copper | | 108,04 |

| | |
|---|---|
| 15. Glass and glassware | 92,53 |
| 16. Spirits | 87,23 |
| 17. Spices | 84,76 |
| 18. Silk, raw | 80,96 |
| 19. Salt | 77,69 |
| 20. Aniline and alizarine dyes | 65,75 |
| 21. Drugs and medicines | 59,69 |
| 22. Chemicals | 57,19 |
| 23. Instruments and apparatus | 51,97 |
| 24. Beer | 50,91 |
| 25. Paper | 50,78 |
| 26. Horses | 46,60 |
| 27. Coal | 45,09 |

Five-eighths of the trade consist of cotton, metals and metalware, machinery and railway material, sugar, and petroleum.

In the geographical distribution of the import trade the United Kingdom continues to occupy the predominant place, sending something like two-thirds of all the merchandise landed at Indian ports. The share of the United Kingdom, however, does not increase, mainly in consequence of the recently acquired great relative importance of the trade in sugar and petroleum which are received from other countries; while certain other articles, also received from other countries, have been growing in importance. The percentage of the imports belonging to each of the principal countries from which India receives merchandise is stated below. The feature of the list is the prominent position held by Russia (petroleum), Austria-Hungary (sugar, cotton goods, glass and hardware, paper, and other articles) and Germany (sugar, salt, cottons and woollens, hardware, beer and spirits, and sundries). The trade with these two countries has been stimulated by bounties on exports of sugar and by shipping subsidies :

| | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom | 68·8 | 68·9 | 63·8 | 64·5 |
| Austria-Hungary | 3·5 | 3·4 | 4·1 | 4·8 |
| Russia | 3 | 3·4 | 3·7 | 3·9 |
| Germany | 2·5 | 2·4 | 3·4 | 3·7 |
| Belgium | 3·3 | 2·6 | 3·2 | 3·7 |
| Straits Settlements | 2·9 | 2·7 | 3 | 2·9 |
| Mauritius | 2·9 | 2·3 | 3·2 | 2·4 |
| China | 2·5 | 2·2 | 3·3 | 2·2 |
| France | 1·5 | 1·4 | 1·4 | 1·7 |
| United States | 2 | 1·7 | 1·6 | 1·4 |

## Exports of imported goods

There is no appreciable revival in the re-export trade from the limitation of it which began with the advent of the plague in Bombay, or rather which had already set in when the epidemic made its appearance. The figures appended will show how the trade has shrunk, chiefly to the detriment of Bombay where the bulk of the trade is carried on :

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1894-95 | 5,05,74,144 | 1898-99 | 3,37,11,965 |
| 1895-96 | 4,71,75,159 | 1899-1900 | 3,29,24,912 |
| 1896-97 | 4,03,36,372 | 1900-01 | 3,20,85,314 |
| 1897-98 | 3,75,11,720 | 1901-02 | 3,25,98,163 |

The value of the trade in the last four years was only 1313 lakhs, contrasted with 1756 lakhs in the preceding four years, and the decline has been continuous, with the exception of a small increase last year.

The plague alone, however, has not occasioned the contraction, which is also due in a measure to the establishment of direct communications between Europe and the two regions for which Bombay acted and still continues in a lesser degree to act, as a receiving and distributing agent, namely, the Persian Gulf and the east coast of Africa. The change in conditions has been fully explained in recent issues of this review and need not again be discussed. The small recovery last year was due to the larger exportation of cotton manufactures (which represented altogether about 44 per cent of the trade) in the hope of finding a better market than existed in Bombay at the time.

## Exports of Indian Merchandise

The exports of the year were very much the largest on record, the aggregate value exceeding that of the year in which the next greatest value was reached (1895-96) by 10 per cent, and the value of 1900-01 by 16 per cent. The progress of the export trade since 1880 is exhibited in the figures appended:

| | ₹ |
|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 | 79,44,52,789 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 | 88,75,15,074 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 | 101,43,43,860 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 103,64,92,715 |
| 1900-01 | 104,16,04,984 |
| 1901-02 | 121,20,45,021 |

The fluctuations of the trade from year to year are illustrated by the appended list of the principal articles in the trade and their values (in ₹):

| | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Grain and pulse | 27,19,75,674 | 18,09,82,330 | 14,03,13,382 | 18,28,78,815 |
| Seeds | 11,84,71,942 | 10,09,95,284 | 9,01,40,351 | 16,77,92,684 |
| Cotton, raw | 11,18,85,385 | 9,92,50,646 | 10,12,74,007 | 14,42,60,933 |
| Jute, raw | 6,94,12,452 | 8,07,16,465 | 10,86,77,562 | 11,79,72,723 |
| Cotton yarn and cloth | 7,78,84,697 | 8,27,41,246 | 5,70,29,566 | 10,86,53,008 |
| Jute manufactures | 5,79,83,595 | 6,26,43,495 | 7,86,46,012 | 8,71,14,174 |
| Opium | 7,12,60,093 | 8,20,37,148 | 9,45,54,357 | 8,52,29,854 |
| Hides and skins | 7,44,92,185 | 10,46,28,753 | 11,48,26,371 | 8,23,06,848 |
| Tea | 8,04,48,038 | 9,09,21,120 | 9,55,09,301 | 8,14,94,893 |
| Indigo | 2,97,04,781 | 2,69,25,107 | 2,13,59,808 | 1,85,22,554 |
| Coffee | 1,74,98,242 | 1,48,47,146 | 1,22,84,498 | 1,25,02,200 |
| Wood and timber | 1,08,57,055 | 1,08,69,202 | 1,07,06,089 | 89,15,416 |

Drought and famine stand out plainly as the predominant factors in the restricted trade of 1900-01: the grain trade was hardly more than half that of 1898; the exports of cotton were at a low level for two years; the decline of oilseeds was remarkable; and on the other hand the mortality of cattle raised the exports of hides to an abnormally large figure. Adverse seasons having passed away, at least in a considerable degree, the trade in these great staples recovered sufficiently to make a marked difference in the totals of the trade of the two years. The exports of India in fact consist to such an extremely large extent of vegetable products, for food or for industrial purposes, that the trade of the country is dependent upon the seasons, a good season being followed by active exports and a bad season by depressed trade, the depression being far more severely felt from time to time in one port of shipment than in others. At Karáchi, for instance, the failure of wheat and rapeseed in the Panjab may almost extinguish for the time the trade of the port, while other ports will not suffer from anything more than a contraction not seriously felt. Indeed, Rangoon

flourished in 1900-01 as a consequence of the scarcity which depressed Bombay and Karáchi. Besides drought and famine other causes have operated to bring about violent fluctuations in trade, such as those which have affected tea, indigo, and cotton yarn. On the whole, although some of the cloud that had completely overspread the sky in the preceding year still hung about, the conditions were, generally, fairly satisfactory. Prices fluctuated in accordance with the conditions to which reference has been made, some articles rising and others falling in price. They are stated below, the figures being for January in each year, and the basis being 100, which is taken to represent prices in 1873:

| | 1896 | 1897 | 1898 | 1899 | 1900 | 1901 | 1902 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton | 94 | 76 | 68 | 59 | 84 | 88 | 81 |
| Cotton yarn, No. 20 | 74 | 72 | 63 | 52 | 61 | 69 | 66 |
| Rice | 151 | 204 | 185 | 153 | 150 | 171 | 200 |
| Wheat | 81 | 152 | 99 | 79 | 115 | 86 | 95 |
| Opium | 100 | 83 | 80 | 86 | 99 | 100 | 94 |
| Indigo | 105 | 84 | 76 | 57 | 74 | 65 | 65 |
| Jute | 175 | 203 | 156 | 170 | 194 | 186 | 178 |
| Gunny bags | 108 | 99 | 85 | 87 | 117 | 105 | 97 |
| Linseed | 113 | 101 | 94 | 95 | 123 | 161 | 143 |
| Tea | 84 | 64 | 61 | 58 | 64 | 45 | 55 |
| TOTAL | 1,085 | 1,138 | 967 | 896 | 1,081 | 1,076 | 1,074 |

Classifying the articles of trade as they are grouped in the accounts, and as they will be dealt with in the following paragraphs, it appears that articles of food and raw material for industrial purposes bulk very largely in the trade. The only group in which the value of the trade did not increase is that of chemicals, drugs, narcotics, this lower value being due to a decline in the value of opium from the unusually high level reached in 1900-01:

| | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Articles of food and drink | 38,57,67,285 | 30,37,78,416 | 26,30,45,344 | 29,31,34,535 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials | 11,33,39,260 | 12,36,20,111 | 12,88,83,296 | 11,86,12,460 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles | 39,14,39,977 | 40,88,55,807 | 42,71,60,535 | 53,84,01,450 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 19,19,84,095 | 20,77,47,320 | 20,94,81,243 | 24,98,47,620 |

It will not escape notice, in looking at this list, that the exports of articles of food and drink stand at a level far beneath that of 1898-99; but there was a quite exceptional demand in Europe for Indian wheat in that year, and while prices were attractively high the harvest in the Panjab was exceptionally abundant; the figures of that year were in fact unusual. In raw materials the large excess of last year was due to the very active trade done in cotton and oilseeds; and the recovery under manufactured articles was the outcome of the revival of the exports of cotton yarn to China after a period of depression.

In the following paragraphs the general features of the trade of the year in the important items of trade will be discussed.

## ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

*Coffee.*—The exports have been:

| | Cwt | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1898-99 | 270,056 | 1,74,98,242 |
| 1899-1900 | 281,353 | 1,48,47,146 |
| 1900-01 | 246,431 | 1,22,84,498 |
| 1901-02 | 255,042 | 1,25,02,200 |

There was a small recovery in the exports, but the quantity was still much below the level of former years, and it cannot be said that the trade is progressive. The quality of Indian coffee is good, so good that it is appreciated by Arabs and Turks, but the world's markets are dominated by the great abundance of the supply of the cheaper kinds from Brazil which gives three-fourths of the production of the world, and last year's exports from that country were so excessive that prices fell to a lower point than ever. Indian coffee remains depressed in price even when the available supply is restricted either by an unfavourable season or by the ravages of disease. It is difficult, however, to ascertain with accuracy the area, yield, or condition, of the coffee estates of Southern India, the planters being averse, for some unstated and unconjecturable reason, to communicate statistical information relating to the industry.

The menace of differential treatment of Indian coffee in France (to which a full third of it is exported) by applying to it the duties leviable under the general tariff while Brazilian coffee is charged at special minimum rates, has not yet taken effect. The *modus vivendi* under which the minimum tariff is provisionally applied to Indian coffee has been prolonged from time to time and will continue for a few months longer.

*Rice.*—The exports are stated below, in cwt (000 omitted) :

| | *From Burma* | *From Bengal* | *From other Provinces* | *Total* | *Value in ₹* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1895-96 . . | 24,612 | 7,925 | 2,099 | 34,636 | 13,43,07,029 |
| 1896-97 . . | 19,370 | 5,053 | 3,397 | 27,820 | 11,85,02,610 |
| 1897-98 . . | 18,002 | 4,953 | 3,317 | 26,272 | 11,58,70,280 |
| 1898-99 . . | 25,905 | 8,636 | 2,852 | 37,393 | 15,67,76,454 |
| 1899-1900 . | 21,671 | 7,873 | 2,318 | 31,862 | 13,00,58,725 |
| 1900-01 . . | 21,394 | 8,106 | 1,566 | 31,066 | 13,14,22,857 |
| 1901-02 . . | 24,190 | 6,275 | 3,275 | 33,740 | 13,84,64,287 |

The actual destination of the whole of the exports is not known, for more than one-third is shipped nominally to Egypt, which means to Port Said for orders; moreover, some of the rice shipped to the United Kingdom is sent to Falmouth for orders; and in neither case can it be said to what ports in the Mediterranean or in the Northern seas the rice is ultimately conveyed. It may be said generally that 14 million out of the $33\frac{3}{4}$ million cwt shipped were taken to Europe, say 42 per cent; while another 14 million were taken for consumption in Asiatic countries, making altogether 84 per cent of the exports equally divided between Europe and Asia. Asiatics in Eastern Africa and the islands on the east coast of that continent, and in South America and the West Indies, consumed the other 16 per cent. As stated last year, roughly about 55 per cent of the exports from India are a food supply for Indians and Chinese in Asia, Africa, and America, while some 45 per cent are consumed in Europe as food and as material for the manufacture of spirits and starch; but it cannot be said in what proportion it is used for spirit and starch or for food.

Prices during the year were lower than in either of the two preceding years, the excited demand for Burman rice for the supply of the distressed tracts having abated considerably, but they maintained a higher level than in other ordinary years, and the requirements of India were still large enough, even with the return of moderately good agricultural conditions, to divert some Burma rice which would ordinarily have been shipped abroad. Exports from Bengal were on a very low scale, measured by the exports from

that province in former years of ordinary harvests, and it may be noted here that the exports from Bengal to other provinces by railway as well as by sea were greatly restricted. The conviction gains strength that Bengal is gradually ceasing to possess the capacity of being an exporter of rice and that the time is not far off when rice must be imported into the province, in regular course.

*Wheat.*—The anticipations of a large export were not realised. The wheat harvest in the Panjab, which is the great source whence the export trade is supplied, was extremely good, far above the average; but after a season of drought stocks in the country needed replenishment, and prices also kept at a somewhat high level—higher than the level at which an active and profitable export trade could be carried on in view of the level of prices in England. Consequently, the collapse of 1900-01 was followed by but a moderate export, much smaller than the trade of many former years including the year just before the collapse. The quantity exported only reached 366,091 tons, of which almost all was shipped from Karáchi, only 4,165 tons being shipped from Bombay, the fields supplying that port having yielded an insufficient harvest. The prospects of a large trade this year are not encouraging, for the wheat harvest has everywhere been below the average owing to the absence of the winter rains generally and to the ravages of rats in Western India.

The exports of other grains and pulse were also only moderately large. They exceeded those of the bad year immediately preceding, but there was no full revival of the export trade in them any more than there was in rice and wheat, the reason being the same in all cases, namely, the divergence of price at the port of shipment and at the port of destination.

*Sugar.*—Although India may be said to have practically ceased to export sugar and to have lost the considerable trade in that article which existed in former years, it is of some interest to note two marked features in the trade in the last two or three years. The first is that the export of refined sugar to Ceylon has been reduced to next to nothing, apparently because Madras sugar cannot compete in Colombo with beet sugar. The other feature is that the exportation of raw sugar to the United Kingdom dropped from 528,000 cwt in 1899-1900 to 243,000 cwt in 1900-01, and dropped again to 101,000 cwt last year. This is partly due to the competition of raw beet sugar for the supply of the British refineries, but is even more due to scanty supplies resulting from deficient crops. It seems practically certain that a large export trade in Indian sugar is a thing of the past, but growers and refiners have a much more assured market in India itself if they will grow and refine the article under conditions preventing the waste and exaggerated cost of production which accompany defective cultivation and manufacture.

*Tea.*—

| | lb (*000 omitted*) | *R* |
|---|---|---|
| 1897-98 | 151,452 | 8,05,86,233 |
| 1898-99 | 157,471 | 8,04,48,038 |
| 1899-1900 | 175,038 | 9,09,21,120 |
| 1900-01 | 190,305 | 9,55,09,301 |
| 1901-02 | 179,685 | 8,14,94,893 |

The principal consumers of Indian tea were found in the countries specified below in the last two years (in lb, *000 omitted*):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom | 166,171 | 159,014 |
| Australia | 10,439 | 8,575 |

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|
| Turkey, Asiatic | 3,240 | 2,626 |
| „ European | 618 | 144 |
| Persia | 2,429 | 2,530 |
| Canada | 1,725 | 1,059 |
| China | 1,143 | 1,337 |
| Germany | 838 | 648 |
| Russia | 772 | 1,624 |

These are direct exports as declared in India and do not include re-exports from the United Kingdom.

For the first time in ten years there was a decline in the quantity exported, but the decline of 11 million pounds was hardly sufficient to do more than arrest the downward trend of prices which tried the industry so severely in 1900. Until towards the end of 1901 that year was as discouraging as the one it followed, and the small recovery which then occurred has hardly been maintained, as regards the superior descriptions at any rate. The owners of tea estates are still, struggling with the difficulties created by the too rapid extension of production and the consequent fall in prices; nor do they see their way clearly as yet to a sound position, although prospects are not so cheerless as in 1900 and the struggle not so intense. The small contraction of production was consequent on climatic influences in Assam and Cachar in a larger degree than on the action of growers in fine plucking. No special endeavour was made in the year to win new markets for Indian tea, and the exports to foreign countries generally, Russia excepted, did not expand and in most cases were on a restricted scale. The voluntary contributions from estates for the purpose of developing external markets were not as freely and satisfactorily paid as was to be desired, and a proposal was made to the Government to levy a cess in the form of a small tax on each chest of tea exported, as is done in Ceylon, the proceeds to be applied to the cost of opening up external markets. This proposal, in which the owners of about two-thirds of the acreage under tea acquiesced, is still under the consideration of Government. But while the means and methods of securing wider external markets are still under discussion, the practical efforts to find an Indian market for Indian tea have been successfully continued by the firm who undertook the business last year, and it is understood that the results obtained so far are full of promise and encouragement.

The area and yield of tea in India, as far as these have been reported, were as follows in the last two years:

| | *Area* (acres) | | *Yield* (lb) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1900 | 1901 | 1900 | 1901 |
| Assam and Cachar | 337,327 | 338,186 | 141,118,644 | 134,896,317 |
| Bengal | 134,572 | 135,129 | 46,533,255 | 46,203,980 |
| Madras and Travancore | 31,309 | 31,463 | 5,105,196 | 5,434,749 |
| Panjab, U. P. of Agra and Oudh, Burma | 19,279 | 19,989 | 4,703,569 | 4,695,727 |
| TOTAL | 522,487 | 524,767 | 197,460,664 | 191,230,773 |

In the competitive conditions with which the tea industry has to contend to-day, it is certain that the time for empirical cultivation and manufacture has passed, and that rational, that is, scientific, methods must be pursued if Indian tea is to maintain its reputation and be sold at remunerative prices. The cultivation must be based on careful study and selection of soils and fertilisers, the parasites that infest the plant must be effectively dealt with, the conditions which result from infrequent and frequent plucking of the leaf

must be ascertained by competent observation, and the manufacture must be based upon a scientific study of fermentation. The necessity for scientific teaching in all these respects is recognised by the Indian Tea Association which has taken a useful practical step by the engagement of a skilled chemical adviser who has done excellent work within the opportunities available to him. The opportunities, however, are but limited, and one man cannot be expected to do all that is needed when his operations extend over an area of little less than half a million acres in two large provinces, especially when the means of communication between the estates do not permit of swift movement. To make such teachings really efficient time should be given to the personal instruction of planters. The instruction should be based upon careful and prolonged experiment in an agricultural station, or more than one station, suitably located in the tea districts, and sufficiently manned to admit of the deputation of a scientific assistant to stay at an estate for some days, long enough to give the manager detailed lessons on the points on which instruction is needed. Such a station it is intended to establish in Bihar for the instruction of indigo planters in the theory and practice of processes of cultivation and manufacture of indigo, sugar, and other crops, and nothing could be better devised to attain the end desired. A station of the kind for tea in Assam, or in the Darjeeling district, or in both, is equally needed, and would have an equally good effect. But no association of tea-owners can provide the funds requisite for such stations, and it is necessary for the State to assist and probably to manage them. If the proposed cess on exported tea is partly applied to defray a proportion of the cost of such a station it would be well expended.

Another matter that now presses for attention is the consolidation of tea estates in order to reduce the cost of direction, agency, and management. The average tea-bearing area of each estate is, in Assam 420 acres, in Bengal 299 acres, and it cannot be denied that three, four, six, or more, of such estates might, with advantage, when lying adjacent to each other, be consolidated under one management, with one agency at the port, and one board of directors.

## Drugs, Narcotics, Dyes

*Opium.*—The fluctuations in exports and prices are indicated by the figures below :

| | *Bengal* chests | *Bombay* chests | *Total* chests | *Value* ₹ | *Average price* Bengal ₹ | Bombay ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1897-98 . . | 37,846 | 18,223 | 56,069 | 6,09,75,632 | 1,029 | 1,209 |
| 1898-99 . . | 41,169 | 25,959 | 67,128 | 7,12,60,093 | 1,049 | 1,082 |
| 1899-1900 . . | 42,427 | 24,923 | 67,350 | 8,20,37,148 | 1,215 | 1,223 |
| 1900-01 . . | 44,994 | 24,714 | 69,708 | 9,45,54,357 | 1,361 | 1,349 |
| 1901-02 . . | 48,062 | 17,541 | 65,603 | 8,52,29,854 | 1,299 | 1,301 |

The exports of Malwa opium fell to a low level last year, in consequence of the drought in Central India by which the crop was seriously affected. The larger supply available, and shipped, of Bengal opium did not compensate for the reduction in Malwa opium, and the exports were smaller by 4,105 chests than in the preceding year. But with the cessation of the troubles in China and a better yield of the indigenous crop in that country, speculation was not quite so active, and the average price receded from the high level of the preceding year, falling from ₹1,361 to ₹1,299 per chest of Bengal opium.

That the rate of exchange between India and China is not, as has occasion-

ally been suggested, a substantial factor in the price of opium, seems tolerably clear from the figures appended:

| | Average price (in rupees) | Rate of exchange on Hong Kong (₹ per $100) |
|---|---|---|
| 1892-93 | 1,227 | 222 |
| 1893-94 | 1,132 | 205 |
| 1894-95 | 1,316 | 188 |
| 1895-96 | 1,390 | 191 |
| 1896-97 | 1,288 | 181 |
| 1897-98 | 1,087 | 155 |
| 1898-99 | 1,061 | 143 |
| 1899-1900 | 1,218 | 146 |
| 1900-01 | 1,356 | 150 |
| 1901-02 | 1,299 | 143 |

Here we find a price of ₹1,299 in one year and ₹1,061 in another year, the exchange in both years being at the same rate, and an almost equally low price (₹1,087) when exchange was much higher. Prices seem to have borne little or no relation in the period in the table, which begins just before the closure of the mints, to the variations in exchange. They are dependent on supply and demand not on the varying rates of the media of exchange, though a particular transaction may be affected by the variation of exchange, and it is sometimes supposed that such a temporary bargain illustrates the operation of a general law.

*Indigo.*—The course of the export trade is indicated in the subjoined figures (cwt):

| | From Calcutta | From Madras | From other ports | TOTAL | Value ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1894-95 | 106,830 | 44,974 | 14,504 | 166,308 | 4,74,59,153 |
| 1895-96 | 111,714 | 62,425 | 13,198 | 187,337 | 5,35,45,112 |
| 1896-97 | 109,001 | 43,680 | 16,842 | 169,523 | 4,37,07,570 |
| 1897-98 | 71,364 | 48,165 | 14,320 | 133,849 | 3,05,74,019 |
| 1898-99 | 81,779 | 42,760 | 10,648 | 135,187 | 2,97,04,781 |
| 1899-1900 | 59,078 | 39,853 | 12,489 | 111,420 | 2,69,25,107 |
| 1900-01 | 71,637 | 18,940 | 11,914 | 102,491 | 2,13,59,808 |
| 1901-02 | 55,038 | 25,400 | 9,312 | 89,750 | 1,85,22,554 |

These figures can give no comfort even to the most optimistic, for they show that the trade has been in a rapid decline since 1897. The reduction of the exports of indigo from Calcutta is due in part to seasonal influences crops being bad; but the seasons have not been uniformly bad, and the more durable cause of the restriction is to be found in the fall of prices which followed when synthetic indigo was offered in the market in commercial quantities. Soon after the competition began it was understood that it was really formidable, and to-day the question which planters ask themselves is whether natural indigo can maintain the struggle. The question has already been answered in the negative in Lower Bengal where the cultivation of indigo has contracted almost to the vanishing point. In Bihar the planters are carrying on the competition manfully, arming themselves on the one hand by the application of scientific methods to the reduction of cost and the increase of yield, and insuring themselves on the other hand against ultimate failure with indigo by the cultivation of other remunerative crops. It is not unlikely that they will recognise that probably sugar is the best of these crops, the one which best repays the application of skill and capital, the one which is of universal and daily consumption by all classes, and the one which presents least cause for the apprehension that the native agriculturist can do the business, with his

rude and primitive methods, as well as the planters with modern apparatus and skilled management.

While indigo exported from Calcutta has declined in quantity in consequence of smaller supplies, due partly to inadequate harvests but more largely to the abandonment of cultivation in Bengal, Bihar, and the United Provinces, and while prices have uniformly ranged round a very low level regardless of the reduced quantities, it appears that Madras indigo has during the last three or four years presented similar features in a reduction of the quantity exported unaccompanied by a rise in price. On the whole, it must be admitted with reluctance that the trade is in a precarious condition, having declined much as the trade in raw silk, that other fine industry of the olden days, has seen its best days. Taking the average of the last four years, the exports of indigo from Calcutta have averaged only 66,883 cwt annually compared with 99,727 cwt in the four years immediately preceding. The total value of all the indigo exported has in the same period declined from an average of ₹438 lakhs to an average of ₹241 lakhs. The average value of indigo exported from Calcutta was in the first four years ₹330 lakhs, in the last four years ₹171 lakhs, so that, while the decline in quantity in this period has been at the rate of about 33 per cent, the decline in value has been at the rate of 48 per cent.

## Raw Materials

*Coal.*—In 1900-01 the export of Indian coal was stimulated by the great rise in price of English coal which marked that year. The imports of coal into India were greatly reduced, Indian coal taking its place, and it was also substituted to some extent for English coal in places out of India between Singapore and Aden. The exports rose in that year to 541,445 tons, the exports of the preceding year having been only 304,586 tons. The stimulus, however, was abated last year by a reduction in the price of British coal, the use of which for steamers was resumed at Colombo, Aden, and Perim. The trade in Indian coal in consequence did not advance, and indeed receded to 524,687 tons. The output of Indian coal in the year is reported to have been 6,635,727 tons, so that relatively the exports were small, being in the proportion of one ton only to about 13 tons produced. Indian coal will no doubt always be much more largely consumed in India than elsewhere. The principal external market for coal remains in Colombo, whither 336,372 tons were shipped, Singapore coming next with 89,592 tons, Aden taking 47,194 tons. The significant thing about the trade is that the coal seems to have acquired a hold on the principal markets although the exceptional conditions which permitted export to them have ceased to exist; shipments were made to British East Africa (16,922 tons), to Mauritius (18,745 tons), to Sumatra (10,690 tons).

*Cotton.*—The trade in cotton was restricted in 1900-01; the quantity available for export being limited in consequence of bad crops, and at the same time the very high level of prices interfered with demand. The crop of 1900-01, which went into the market for shipment last year, was good enough to be but little below the average and prices also were much lower than in 1900 though on such a high level as to mean a satisfactory profit to the cultivator (or the middleman). There was consequently a larger export than had been seen for years. The fair yield, the satisfactory prices, and the activity of the demand were profitable for owners of the raw material, and the recession of prices from the prohibitory level of 1900 was useful to the millowners, aiding the revival of the spinning and weaving industry.

The figures of the trade and prices are :

*Exports*

| | Cwt (000 omitted) | Value ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1896-97 | 5,216 | 12,97,00,886 |
| 1897-98 | 3,723 | 8,87,13,130 |
| 1898-99 | 5,411 | 11,18,85,385 |
| 1899-1900 | 4,373 | 9,92,50,646 |
| 1900-01 | 3,576 | 10,12,74,007 |
| 1901-02 | 5,700 | 14,42,60,933 |

*Prices*

| | | ₹ per candy, 784 lb. |
|---|---|---|
| Average | 1898 | 141-8 |
| ,, | 1899 | 151-8 |
| ,, | 1900 | 214-13 |
| January | 1901 | 199-12 |
| April | ,, | 167-4 |
| January | 1902 | 182-8 |
| April | ,, | 186-4 |

Not far from half (2,526,183 cwt) the whole quantity exported was shipped to Japan, which in the preceding year had bought so much American cotton as to excite apprehension that Indian cotton was about to be discarded in the Japanese market. Indian cotton, however, is far too suitable, when it can be bought at a moderate price, for the coarse spinnings of the Japanese mills to fear the competition of longer-stapled and more expensive cotton. The fact that China also took 559,241 cwt is a practical illustration in support of the proposition that China cannot as yet produce any thing like the quantity of cotton required even for internal consumption and is cetainly not in a position to compete with India for the supply of external markets. The continent of Europe absorbed most of the remainder. The United Kingdom now consumes only a trifling proportion of the Indian cotton exported.

*Hides and skins.*—Exceptional conditions provided the trade in 1899-1900 and 1900-01 with 28 million hides of cattle for export in response to an exceptionally active demand. The mortality amongst the cattle having abated with the abatement of the conditions which produced it, the exportation of hides was reduced to about an average level, the number approximating to 8 millions. The quality averaged rather better than the poor hides shipped during the famine time, and the value of the trade was therefore proportionately higher. The activity of the trade was transferred from the larger hides to the skins of smaller animals, goats and sheep, mainly goats, and there was a very considerable trade done in these, chiefly for the United States, where they are in great demand for the manufacture of leather for small articles. But it should be noted that this trade in raw (untanned) skins has increased at the expense of the tanned skins which until recently were exported, largely from Madras, for the same purposes. It seems to have been found advantageous to transfer the demand from the tanned Madras skins to the untanned Bengal skins, and while the one has been declining the other is progressing, the tanning of the skins in the United States by an improved process being more suitable than the purchase of skins tanned in India by the primitive and imperfect native methods. The change is to the disadvantage of the Madras tanning industry, but no doubt it has the effect of widening and expanding the demand for Indian skins. The figures of the trade are appended :

| | *Hides* | | *Skins* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | ₹ | No. | ₹ |
| 1896-97 | 7,427,943 | 2,54,10,442 | 6,310,988 | 69,35,318 |
| 1897-98 | 10,072,470 | 3,37,49,320 | 9,842,409 | 1,11,93,650 |
| 1898-99 | 8,864,329 | 2,94,84,746 | 10,667,448 | 1,20,66,090 |
| 1899-1900 | 13,474,323 | 4,92,49,617 | 16 838,540 | 1,96,33,877 |
| 1900-01 | 14,654,818 | 5,26,62,193 | 14,349,444 | 1,72,22,325 |
| 1901-02 | 7,972,097 | 2,87,99,134 | 20,810,676 | 2,69,67,253 |

*Jute.*—The exports of jute amounted to as much as $14\frac{3}{4}$ million cwt, a quantity only once exceeded by the 15 million cwt exported in 1897-98; but the range of prices last year was higher than in 1897, and the value of the trade consequently much larger, approximating to the great figure of 1180 lakhs of rupees. When the trade in jute is good and there is an active demand for the manufactures of the Bengal jute mills, the commercial and industrial condition of Calcutta is fairly well assured, for on them is mainly based the commercial fabric of Calcutta. Hence, with the good business done last year in the export of the raw material and in the sale of the articles manufactured therefrom, complaints of the condition of trade in Calcutta were few and indistinct, notwithstanding the depression in tea and indigo which, in the days antecedent to the predominance of jute in the commercial situation, would have spread gloom over commercial circles. For the United Kingdom, Germany, the United States, and France, which are the markets for most of the jute exported, larger quantities were shipped and the trade actively maintained at prices which were good though not as high as in the preceding year. Appended are the figures of this important trade:

| | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | Value ₹ | | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | Value ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1896-97 | 11,464 | 10,55,05,775 | 1899-1900 | 9,725 | 8,07,16,465 |
| 1897-98 | 15,023 | 10,12,99 916 | 1900-01 | 12,414 | 10,86,77,562 |
| 1898-99 | 9,864 | 6,94,12,452 | 1901-02 | 14,755 | 11,79,72,723 |

*Seeds.*—This great trade is, like wheat, subject to violent vicissitudes from year to year, the cause lying, as with wheat, in the condition of the season and the extent of the crop. The question of demand hardly affects the dimensions of the trade, a good crop being always followed by an extensive export, for there is always a demand for oilseeds from India, some being needed for the manufacture of drying oils, others for food, others again for the manufacture of soap, candles, margarine, lard, and so forth. The disastrous failure of the crops in 1899 and 1900 was followed by the most contracted trade, especially in 1900-01, when the exports did not reach 550,000 tons, the three principal kinds—linseed, sesame, and rapeseed—falling in a marked degree. The exports of rapeseed fell off by one-half, the crop having been a failure in the Panjab where it is chiefly grown. In the following year, however, the crop of rapeseed in the Panjab was one of unexampled magnitude, linseed and sesame were not so bad as in the preceding year, and the trade in seeds of lesser importance also revived, earthnuts especially having recovered from the disastrous effects of disease and drought, which, recurring over a series of years, had threatened the extinction of the trade.

The year was further notable for the creation of an extensive trade in cotton seed. Until last year the exports of this seed had been of the most moderate, indeed almost insignificant, dimensions. In 1899-1900 they only reached 43,485 cwt, in the following year they advanced to 225,000 cwt, and then last year increased almost tenfold, amounting to 2,036,000 cwt. The seed was all shipped to the United Kingdom which previously had been supplied almost entirely from Egypt. The reason for the sudden activity of the demand is not quite clear; it has been assigned to the necessity for finding a substitute for olive oil which was scarce in the market; also to the scarcity of sesame oil; to the demand for lard and margarine, for which materials were lacking; to the discovery of a new process for hulling the seed cheaply and efficiently; to the high price of the seed resulting from an American demand for all that

could be got on the American continent. Prices rose as the result of one or more of the causes mentioned, and, as it happened, seed was abundant in India for there had been an average crop of cotton and the demand for seed for cattle feeding was below the average in consequence of the mortality amongst the cattle of Gujarat in the drought. The rise of prices and the active demand were therefore readily responded to, and, if the business did not owe its existence to entirely ephemeral causes, one more already important item has been added to the list of Indian exports.

The dimensions and fluctuations in the trade in seeds, and in each of the principal descriptions, are stated below :

*Total trade*

| | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1893-94 | 24,229 | 16,75,32,514 |
| 1894-95 | 20,887 | 14,20,15,203 |
| 1898-99 | 19,280 | 11,84,71,942 |
| 1899-1900 | 15,775 | 10,09,95,284 |
| 1900-01 | 10,998 | 9,01,40,351 |
| 1901-02 | 22,965 | 16,77,92,684 |

*Quantity of each seed (cwt, 000 omitted)*

| | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Linseed | 8,827 | 7,293 | 5,060 | 7,328 |
| Rape | 4,789 | 3,409 | 1,727 | 6,925 |
| Sesame | 3,070 | 2,470 | 1,844 | 2,447 |
| Cotton | 37 | 43 | 225 | 2,036 |
| Castor | 1,210 | 883 | 876 | 1,324 |
| Poppy | 871 | 949 | 802 | 934 |
| Earthnuts | 88 | 156 | 232 | 1,085 |

*Other articles.*—The other items in the group of raw materials it is not necessary to discuss at any length. *Wool*, the most important of them, has been in a declining condition for the last three years, due to the mortality of sheep in the regions whence supplies are drawn, during the recent times of drought. The trade will no doubt revive with the return of good seasons, the growth of pasturage, and the renewal of water sources.

*Silk* is a fluctuating but non-progressive trade; last year's business was better than that of the depressed year which preceded it.

*Teakwood* has declined materially in the last three years, supplies from the Shan States having fallen away.

*Animal bones* have declined, like hides, and for the same reason. The exports may now be said to average about 100,000 tons annually, some being imported by Germany for the fertilisation of the fields where is grown the beet sugar which is sent in great quantity to a sugar growing country. It is a singular and suggestive set of conditions which may be stated thus: (1) India is a large producer of cane sugar and could extend the cultivation almost indefinitely; (2) but the production is not equal to the consumption; (3) there is a large importation of foreign sugar to meet the Indian demand; (4) India produces bones with which the yield of cane to the acre could be largely increased, but does not use them for that purpose; (5) they are shipped in quantities to Germany where they are used to increase the product of beet;

(6) the resulting sugar is imported, largely and cheaply, into India. It may be added that Indian bones are also sent to Ceylon where they fertilise the fields on which is grown the Ceylon tea that undersells Indian tea not only out of India but even in India itself. This statement of the facts seem to point to the absence of capital, skill, and enterprise in undertakings dependent on agricultural operations.

## Articles Manufactured and partly Manufactured

The following figures indicate the relative proportions of the export trade in each principal class of manufactures in the last five years (₹) :

| | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton yarn and goods . | 8,15,13,379 | 7,78,84,697 | 8,27,41,246 | 5,70,29,565 | 10,86,53,008 |
| Jute goods . . . | 5,93,08,558 | 5,79,83,595 | 6,26,43,495 | 7,86,46,012 | 8,71,14,174 |
| Tanned hides and skins . | 3,82,32,372 | 3,29,41,349 | 3,57,45,259 | 4,49,41,853 | 2,65,40,461 |
| Lac . . . . | 1,06,06,642 | 85,64,921 | 1,12,48,159 | 1,04,97,976 | 95,45,409 |
| Coir . . . . | 27,34,195 | 29,84,549 | 33,23,104 | 40,17,414 | 37,73,820 |
| Woollens . . . | 22,38,987 | 22,92,855 | 25,32,550 | 29,64,332 | 26,97,670 |
| Apparel . . . | 16,41,356 | 15,19,282 | 15,97,207 | 20,19,814 | 20,99,657 |
| Silks . . . . | 12,60,409 | 12,81,890 | 12,89,018 | 12,54,447 | 10,54,694 |

It will be noticed that a considerable proportion of the trade is limited to articles which are only partly manufactured and must undergo further processes before they can be used : such are yarn, the most important of all, tanned hides, and lac. To lac indeed the term manufacture can, perhaps, hardly be applied with accuracy, for shell and button lac are obtained simply by triturition in water to separate the insect which secretes the lac from the resinous secretion, the resulting broken resin being then melted and cooled in lumps or sheets.

*Cotton manufactures.*—The figures of the export trade given below indicate the very satisfactory removal of the depression which weighed upon the industry in 1900-01 :

| | *Yarn* | | *Piece goods* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lb | ₹ | Yards | ₹ |
| | (*000 omitted*) | | (*000 omitted*) | |
| 1897-98 . . | 199,946 | 6,96,68,320 | 62,252 | 1,06,48,893 |
| 1898-99 . . | 219,624 | 6,60,30,883 | 60,619 | 1,05,83,827 |
| 1899-1900 . . | 240,693 | 6,90,21,784 | 69,556 | 1,26,17,445 |
| 1900-01 . . | 118,081 | 4,17,05,891 | 69,342 | 1,43,32,297 |
| 1901-02 . . | 272,468 | 9,31,66,944 | 72,625 | 1,42,54,982 |

The recovery is further attested by the figures of production of yarn and cloth in the mills (in lb, 000 omitted) :

| | *in Bombay* | *elsewhere* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *Yarn* | | |
| 1898-99 . . . . | 368,050 | 144,335 | 512,385 |
| 1899-1900 . . . | 371,041 | 142,882 | 513,923 |
| 1900-01 . . . . | 243,625 | 109,348 | 352,973 |
| 1901-02 . . . . | 415,028 | 157,910 | 572,938 |
| | *Cloth* | | |
| 1898-99 . . . . | 82,366 | 19,324 | 101,690 |
| 1899-1900 . . . . | 78,583 | 19,482 | 98,065 |
| 1900-01 . . . . | 80,689 | 18,058 | 98,747 |
| 1901-02 . . . . | 98,546 | 21,105 | 119,651 |

Conditions in India were ameliorated by the restoration of purchasing capacity to the people, and that restoration was accompanied by the necessity of renewing apparel which had done more than a fair share of duty during the period of distress. The situation in China also improved with the return of peaceful and orderly conditions, and the reduction of the excessive stocks which had depressed prices. The price of the raw material and of coal was reduced, while there was an improvement in the price of the manufactured article. Such a complete reversal of the conditions which prevailed in 1900-01 brought welcome relief to the industry, and fair profits were made.

*Jute manufactures.*—This important industry, which is to Calcutta what the cotton industry is to Bombay, also did very well in the year, the bags and cloth made in the mills selling at fair prices for internal consumption as well as for export. The dimensions and value of the export trade are (000 omitted in each case):

| | | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-1901 | 1901-1902 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags | No. | 197,620 | 180,896 | 168,324 | 202,908 | 230,126 |
| Cloth | yards | 242,951 | 280,382 | 307,021 | 365,215 | 418,566 |
| Value | ₹ | 5,93,08 | 5,79,83 | 6,26,43 | 7,86,46 | 8,71,14 |

It will be noticed that a considerable proportion of the development of this industry is in the manufacture of cloth, which has increased much more rapidly than that of bags.

*Hides and Skins, tanned.*—The very large decline was due to the causes stated when discussing the trade in raw hides and skins on page 27 of this paper. The exports fell as shown below:

| | 1900-01 | | 1901-02 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ |
| Hides | 254,755 | 1,46,80,048 | 134,249 | 76,70,877 |
| Skins | 215,148 | 3,02,61,805 | 132,193 | 1,88,69,584 |

*General distribution of the export trade.*—The value of the exports of Indian produce and manufactures in the last four years was distributed in the ratios stated below among the principal countries with which the trade is carried on:

| | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom | 29·3 | 29·2 | 30·1 | 25·1 |
| China | 11·6 | 13·3 | 11·3 | 14·5 |
| Germany | 7·5 | 7·1 | 8·8 | 8·4 |
| France | 7·1 | 6·3 | 5·7 | 7·3 |
| United States | 4·9 | 7·2 | 6·9 | 6·9 |
| Japan | 4·8 | 6 | 2 | 5·7 |
| Straits Settlements | 5·2 | 5·2 | 6·6 | 5·2 |
| Egypt | 6·3 | 5·1 | 4·3 | 4·4 |
| Belgium | 4·3 | 3·2 | 3·4 | 3·9 |
| Ceylon | 3·8 | 3·9 | 4·6 | 3·7 |
| Italy | 3 | 2·5 | 2·9 | 2·4 |
| Austria-Hungary | 1·9 | 1·6 | 2·6 | 2 |

The noticeable decrease in the proportion of Indian exports shipped to the United Kingdom is in the main due to Continental countries drawing their requirements of Indian oilseeds, cotton, jute, rice, hides, direct in steamers of subsidised lines. It is partly also due to the practical disuse of Indian cotton in English mills and to the great increase in the exports of cotton to Japan. That country was last on the list in 1900-01, but with the revival of the demand for raw cotton when there was a supply available the proportion of the export trade with Japan again increased. China stands next to the United Kingdom

as a consumer of Indian goods, owing to the extensive trade in cotton yarn and opium. Germany is the largest European consumer of Indian goods next to the United Kingdom, and the share of that country is really larger than is indicated by the figures, for a portion of what is assigned to Egypt represents trade with Germany, though declared, on departure of the vessels from India, as being for Port Said. Last year the value of our export trade to the United Kingdom was about equal to that of the trade to all other European countries: in former years it was much larger.

## Customs Revenue

No important change was made in the tariff during the year, but in the present month a duty has been imposed on beet sugar from Germany and Austria-Hungary additional to the ordinary and special duties now levied.

The gross revenue from imports, salt excluded, was ₹4,58,03,102, a considerably larger sum than the revenue (₹4,01,42,293) realised in 1900-01, a material portion of the increase being due to the importations of bounty-fed sugar. The ordinary duty on imported sugar was ₹31,93,686 and the additional duties amounted to ₹40,48,287.

The following are the principal items from which the customs revenue on imports is derived (₹):

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Articles of food and drink:* | | | |
| Spirit | 64,92,799 | 63,83,274 | 64,94,209 |
| Sugar | 25,98,799 | 52,52,863 | 72,41,973 |
| Provisions | 4,88,831 | 5,97,228 | 5,57,936 |
| Spices | 4,81,344 | 4,59,900 | 4,42,999 |
| *Chemicals, Drugs, Narcotics, Dyes:* | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, narcotics | 3,64,304 | 4,41,872 | 4,68,457 |
| Chemicals | 2,58,413 | 3,26,417 | 3,41,405 |
| Dyes and tans | 3,75,156 | 3,39,825 | 3,99,771 |
| *Metals and articles made of metal:* | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 8,24,379 | 9,48,850 | 8,96,065 |
| Copper and brass | 2,61,594 | 4,55,409 | 5,47,584 |
| Iron and steel | 3,49,423 | 4,69,913 | 5,21,971 |
| Silver | 24,32,247 | 13,34,940 | 30,63,806 |
| *Manufactures of cotton:* | | | |
| Piece goods: grey (unbleached) | 48,16,838 | 49,58,157 | 50,29,944 |
| ,, white (bleached) | 18,55,336 | 21,21,125 | 27,25,971 |
| ,, coloured | 23,01,382 | 20,20,570 | 23,55,804 |
| *Oils:* | | | |
| Petroleum | 43,13,542 | 49,29,432 | 53,05,104 |

Of the other articles enumerated in the tariff schedules, only the few specified below yield an appreciable revenue (₹):

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel | 6,92,752 | 7,72,162 | 8,09,264 |
| Silk and articles made of silk | 8,56,393 | 13,32,609 | 11,68,389 |
| Woollen goods | 8,82,174 | 10,52,056 | 9,88,535 |

It will be observed from the foregoing figures that, though the Indian tariff comprises a lengthy list of dutiable articles, there are but few on which individually any revenue of importance is collected: these are spirituous liquor, petroleum, sugar, metals (including silver), and cotton piece goods. These yielded last year three-fourths of the whole revenue. Cotton piece goods are

much the most important source of revenue in the tariff, and the rate of duty on them is only $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, whereas the general rate is 5 per cent.

The export tariff schedule is limited to rice and rice-flour, a duty of three annas (three-sixteenths of a rupee) being levied on each maund of $82\frac{2}{7}$lb. The duty realised last year, R90,87,957 was higher than it has been recently, the export trade having increased as the demand for Burman rice for the famine stricken tracts in India declined.

## Balance of trade

The figures appended state the excess of exports over imports, including merchandise and treasure, in each of the last five years (R):

| | Including Government transactions | Excluding Government transactions |
|---|---|---|
| 1897-98 | 10,60,38,000 | 14,92,85,000 |
| 1898-99 | 30,21,40,000 | 33,86,54,000 |
| 1899-1900 | 20,76,15,000 | 25,25,58,000 |
| 1900-01 | 16,47,46,000 | 22,10,20,000 |
| 1901-02 | 27,03,19,000 | 31,80,77,000 |

In the same years the drawings of Council bills have been as follows:

| | £ | Exchange, pence | R |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1897-98 | 9,506,077 | 15·4 | =14,81,28,000 |
| 1898-99 | 18,692,377 | 15·98 | =28,07,64,000 |
| 1899-1900 | 19,067,022 | 16·07 | =28,48,01,000 |
| 1900-01 | 13,300,276 | 15·973 | =19,98,38,000 |
| 1901-02 | 18,539,071* | 15·987 | =27,83,02,000 |

## Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion

The value of the imports and exports is (R):

| | Imports | Exports | Net imports |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Gold—* | | | |
| 1897-98 | 7,28,12,000 | 2,37,27,000 | 4,90,85,000 |
| 1898-99 | 8,84,00,000 | 2,33,66,000 | 6,50,34,000 |
| 1899-1900 | 11,44,88,000 | 2,00,82 000 | 9,44,06,000 |
| 1900-01 | 11,89,80,000 | 11,05,59,000 | 84,21,000 |
| 1901-02 | 8,30,75,000 | 6,36,99,000 | 1,93,76,000 |
| *Silver—* | | | |
| 1897-98 | 13,24,94,000 | 4,77,59,000 | 8,47,35,000 |
| 1898-99 | 9,05,56,000 | 5,07,48,000 | 3,98,08,000 |
| 1899-1900 | 9,52,49,000 | 5,94,82,000 | 3,57,67,000 |
| 1900-01 | 12,67,87,000 | 3,17,15,000 | 9,50,72,000 |
| 1901-02 | 12,29,38,000 | 5,10,10,000 | 7,19,28,000 |

Stated in ounces, the net import of gold and silver in the last five years has been:

| | *Gold* | *Silver* |
|---|---|---|
| 1897-98 | 732,035 | 44,284,617 |
| 1898 99 | 1,022,000 | 23,165,425 |
| 1899-1900 | 1,560,812 | 18,646,282 |
| 1900-01 | 106,678 | 49,435,164 |
| 1901-02 | 274,506 | 39,005,192 |

It may be of interest to note here that in the seven years 1895-96 to 1901-02 the registered imports of rupees have amounted to R5,20,91,013 and the exports to R10,33,04,888, making a net withdrawal from the currency of R5,12,13,875, say 512 lakhs.

* Inclusive of remittances of the Gold Reserve Fund

## Trade with Countries

The trade of India with the world, in merchandise imported and exported, was distributed as follows last year (₹, 000 omitted) :

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|
| Europe | 120,35,68 | 130,70,51 |
| Africa and adjacent islands | 11,10,73 | 11,49,58 |
| Asia | 39,42,95 | 49,42,66 |
| America | 10,06,09 | 11,60,62 |
| Australia | 2,69,23 | 2,70,06 |
| TOTAL | 183,64,68 | 205,93,43 |

The trade with Europe was about 63·5 per cent, and with Asiatic countries about 24 per cent of the whole. Approximately the trade of India is conducted with European countries to the extent of two-thirds, and of that trade much the largest share is carried on with the United Kingdom, which indeed took 40·6 per cent of the whole trade that India did with the world last year; but this was a much smaller proportion than in previous years, owing chiefly to the diversion of Indian exports to European countries direct instead of through England.

In the appended list are enumerated the principal countries with which our trade is conducted, and the value in each case (in rupees, 000 omitted). It should be noted that the places assigned in the list to some European countries might need revision if we knew the destination of the exports to Egypt.

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. United Kingdom | 80,46,70 | 80,70,97 | 83,66,17 |
| 2. China | 15,81,18 | 14,39,52 | 19,47,89 |
| 3. Germany | 9,21,59 | 11,82,25 | 13,21,42 |
| 4. France | 7,69,04 | 7,12,56 | 10,27,17 |
| 5. United States | 8,86,16 | 8,48,22 | 9,56,83 |
| 6. Straits Settlements | 7,73,56 | 9,41,01 | 8,99,51 |
| 7. Belgium | 5,27,06 | 5,99,12 | 7,73,62 |
| 8. Japan | 6,85,64 | 2,93,64 | 7,67,76 |
| 9. Austria-Hungary | 4,09,91 | 5,85,64 | 6,32,44 |
| 10. Egypt | 5,60,54 | 4,81,66 | 5,60,81 |
| 11. Ceylon | 4,90,87 | 5,69,91 | 5,49,46 |
| 12. Italy | 3,50,35 | 3,92,28 | 3,91,42 |
| 13. Russia | 2,52,55 | 3,08,79 | 3,39,95 |
| 14. Mauritius | 2,68,15 | 3,72,80 | 3,34,59 |

## Shipping

In 1899-1900 the contraction of the export trade caused by failure of crops was followed by a reduction in tonnage, and the further contraction of the trade in 1900-01 led to another reduction in both numbers and tonnage. Last year, with the revival of trade following on the return of agricultural productiveness, there was an increase in tonnage, of which about 96 per cent was steam tonnage.

Below are given the number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to foreign countries :

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1898-99 | 9,686 | 9,115,646 | 941 |
| 1899-1900 | 8,528 | 8,627,486 | 1,012 |
| 1900-01 | 8,302 | 8,269,430 | 996 |
| 1901-02 | 8,613 | 9,625,317 | 1,118 |

The total number of steamers which entered and cleared was 4,917, with an aggregate burden of 9,211,549 tons, the average tonnage of each steamer being 1,873 tons.

The entries from and clearances to the United Kingdom were 2,366,986 tons, being 24·6 per cent of the total tonnage. Entries from and clearances to British Possessions amounted to 4,001,933 tons, or 41·6 per cent of the whole. The tonnage from and to the United Kingdom and British Possessions amounted therefore to two-thirds (66 per cent) of the whole.

The vessels which enter and leave the ports of India for the most part fly the British flag, the tonnage under that flag representing 79 per cent of the whole. Adding the proportion of the tonnage of vessels under the British Indian registry, it appears that about 81 per cent of the trade of India is carried under the British flag.

The number of vessels under foreign flags, which entered and left Indian ports last year, was 1,333, their burden aggregating 1,711,157 tons, a considerable increase on the preceding year. The number of vessels under the principal flags as stated below shows how quickly the employment of German and Austrian vessels in the Indian trade is increasing. They are in great measures steamers of the Austrian Lloyds, the North German Lloyds, and the Hansa lines:

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|
| German | 209 | 232 | 270 |
| Austro-Hungarian | 131 | 147 | 164 |
| French | 155 | 145 | 149 |
| Norwegian | 82 | 28 | 78 |
| Italian | 53 | 60 | 60 |

## Frontier Trade

The value of this trade has increased in a very satisfactory way during recent years, and it has now attained substantial dimensions. The figures, including trade in gold and silver as well as in merchandise, are (₹):

| | Imports | Exports | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1896-97 | 5,54,06,111 | 4,80,03,482 | 10,34,09,593 |
| 1897-98 | 5,61,76,644 | 4,89,06,290 | 10,50,82,934 |
| 1898-99 | 6,08,08,290 | 5,22,97,343 | 11,31,05,633 |
| 1899-1900 | 7,03,90,709 | 5,58,08,331 | 12,61,99,040 |
| 1900-01 | 7,09,92,963 | 6,57,06,943 | 13,66,99,906 |
| 1901-02 | 7,75,21,376 | 6,61,04,776 | 14,36,26,152 |

The record of gold and silver is, however, necessarily so fragmentary that, in considering the geographical distribution of the trade, it will be convenient to notice only the figures which relate to merchandise. These are entered below, the principal countries being arranged geographically, proceeding from west to east along the line of frontier (₹):

| | | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N.-W. Frontier | Kandahar | 59,38,013 | 71,43,184 | 56,75,970 | 63,31,532 |
| | Kabul | 51,18,404 | 44,20,873 | 47,75,086 | 64,98,375 |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur | 73,64,467 | 1,23,33,828 | 99,66,253 | 1,02,65,315 |
| | Kashmir | 1,55,94,163 | 1,88,83,262 | 2,24,79,269 | 2,57,67,370 |
| N. and N.-E. Frontier | Thibet | 29,39,837 | 28,97,272 | 25,31,914 | 29,72,425 |
| | Nepal | 3,63,55,552 | 3,67,10,064 | 3,98,61,192 | 4,09,19,684 |
| E. Frontier | Western China | 28,34,794 | 33,59,188 | 43,99,729 | 68,50,938 |
| | North Shan States | 56,63,313 | 73,40,530 | 82,44,591 | 70,64,656 |
| | South Shan States | 69,48,502 | 65,27,905 | 67,36,488 | 68,88,697 |
| | Karenni | 20,08,568 | 26,76,093 | 27,08,171 | 21,58,359 |
| | Zimmé | 29,09,261 | 25,72,033 | 28,02,634 | 34,26,295 |

As has been said in former years, the registration of the trade includes much which at the present day is not really foreign (frontier) trade any more than is the trade between British territory and a Native State, such as Mysore. Most of the trade with Kashmir and with the Shan States should be classed as internal trade, and the registration posts now maintained in British territory to register the trade passing to and from these States should be removed to the northern frontier of Kashmir and the eastern frontier of the Shan States. The record would then show the flow of really foreign trade carried across what is practically the British frontier of India.

Accepting the conditions, however, as they exist, the facts may be taken generally to be as stated below:

About 42 per cent of the whole trade crossed the *North-Western frontier* last year. The principal countries with which trade is conducted are Kandahar, Kabul, Bajaur, and Kashmir.

There was a material increase in the trade with each of the countries specified; but there were no special features in the trade inviting comment.

The new caravan route to Persia, from Quetta by way of Nushki and Seistan, offers facilities to traders of which increasing advantage has been taken. The trade is as yet small, and Seistan is not specified with the others in the foregoing list, but its development has been suggestively quick. From ₹1,80,000 in 1899-1900, it increased to ₹5,17,000 in 1900-01, and last year again to ₹12,05,000, the largest items in the exports thither being cotton piece goods, indigo, and tea.

Of the trade which crosses the *Northern* and *North-Eastern frontier*, that with Nepal is far the most considerable, and is of importance, amounting to 31·6 per cent of the whole frontier trade last year. Except for the contraction of the trade in teak with the Northern Shan States and Karenni, the trade over each section of this frontier increased satisfactorily in the year, and there was a noticeable increase in the trade with Western China, which has hitherto kept at a disappointingly low level. There is but little in the trade with China at present, beyond the importation of raw silk and yellow arsenic and the exportation of cotton and manufactures of cotton; but it has possibilities if it is nursed.

The general character of the trade carried on across the Indian frontiers will be inferred from the appended list in which are entered the principal articles imported and exported, and their value last year (in ₹):

*Imports*

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|
| Cattle | 25,22,166 | 31,30,894 |
| Other animals | 29,12,331 | 36,66,442 |
| Drugs and medicines, including charas | 17,56,704 | 24,01,489 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 30,48,336 | 37,19,320 |
| Grain and pulse (largely rice) | 1,42,30,976 | 1,37,72,763 |
| Hides, skins, and horns | 26,04,822 | 26,70,353 |
| Provisions: Ghi | 76,32,367 | 82,77,756 |
| Pickled tea | 20,74,324 | 15,01,603 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rapeseed) | 41,99,965 | 53,28,405 |
| Silk | 10,63,703 | 25,69,016 |
| Wood and timber, chiefly teak | 86,85,357 | 74,59,658 |
| Wool, raw | 29,87,987 | 32,92,258 |
| Woollen goods | 14,51,453 | 14,19,094 |

*Exports*

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|
| Cotton, raw | 11,50,156 | 12,75,617 |
| Cotton yarn: | | |
| European | 22,63,556 | 35,68,457 |
| Indian | 18,69,855 | 26,11,002 |
| Cotton goods: | | |
| Foreign | 1,55,52,381 | 1,78,57,514 |
| Indian | 55,40,523 | 64,37,525 |
| Grain and pulse | 15,10,865 | 10,35,368 |
| Metals, mainly brass, copper, and iron | 26,00,900 | 33,10,350 |
| Provisions | 24,43,863 | 21,46,743 |
| Salt | 35,97,884 | 43,13,875 |
| Silk goods | 11,73,890 | 11,24,430 |
| Spices | 25,29,710 | 16,69,517 |
| Sugar | 22,00,690 | 32,19,792 |
| Tobacco | 14,28,835 | 12,82,428 |

The relative importance of the trade of each frontier province with the countries on the other side of its border will be seen from the figures of last year's trade here appended (in lakhs of R):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 |
|---|---|---|
| Sind and Baluchistan . . . . . | 86·93 | 102·48 |
| Panjab . . . . . | 415·01 | 480·76 |
| United Provinces of Agra and Oudh . . . | 134 | 163·2 |
| Bengal . . . . . | 373·08 | 318·79 |
| Assam . . . . . | 14·45 | 13·68 |
| Burma . . . . . | 343·51 | 357·35 |

The trade of the Panjab (which will now fall in the main to the new Frontier Province) is chiefly with Kabul and Kashmir, and the tribal regions lying between India and Afghanistan. The trade of Bengal is chiefly with Nepal, and of Burma with the protected States lying between Burma, China, and Siam.

J. E. O'CONOR

*June 17, 1902*

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 41 D. G. S.—30-6-02—1,300.

# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

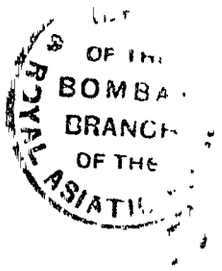
OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

IN

# 1903-04.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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THE

# TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES

For the official year ending March 31, 1904

### General Summary

The value of the trade of the year, which is stated in rupees, is set forth in the figures appended, with the values of the four preceding years. The imports and exports on account of the Government are excluded :

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Imports—* | | | | | |
| Merchandise . . . . | 70,71,18,634 | 76,27,78,853 | 81,51,89,794 | 78,78,79,084 | 84,82,32,930 |
| Gold . . . . . | 11,44,78,674 | 11,87,13,827 | 8,29,76,205 | 13,14,66,553 | 20,13,11,752 |
| Silver . . . . . | 9,51,06,458 | 4,59,22,253 | 11,35,07,591 | 12,10,90,721 | 9,01,31,950 |
| Total Imports . | 91,67,03,766 | 92,74,14,933 | 101,16,73,590 | 104,04,36,358 | 113,96,76,632 |
| *Exports—* | | | | | |
| Foreign merchandise re-exported . | 3,29,24,912 | 3,20,85,314 | 3,25,98,163 | 2,93,56,132 | 3,32,55,087 |
| Indian merchandise . . | 105,68,36,961 | 104,16,04,984 | 121,20,50,631 | 125,87,97,516 | 149,63,40,735 |
| Gold . . . . . | 2,00,81,562 | 4,30,58,851 | 3,36,64,788 | 3,67,73,923 | 3,80,26,776 |
| Silver . . . . . | 5,94,18,443 | 3,16,85,700 | 5,09,60,877 | 5,13,26,185 | 2,17,71,671 |
| Total exports . | 116,92,62,278 | 114,84,34,849 | 132,92,74,459 | 137,62,53,756 | 158,93,94,269 |

The whole trade of the year, that is, the total of the imports and exports of both merchandise and treasure, is greater than that of the preceding year by 3,123·8 lakhs (£20,825,400) equal to 13 per cent. The contribution of the imports of merchandise to this remarkable result is disproportionately small, for their value is but 603 lakhs greater than in the preceding year, and only 330 lakhs more than in 1901-02. The value of the merchandise exported, however, has increased by 2,414 lakhs since 1902-03 and by 2,849 lakhs since 1901-02. This disparity between the imports and exports of merchandise is largely reduced by the phenomenal imports of treasure, but the net excess of exports still remains without a parallel. Among the causes which have contributed to this result is one that has had a two-fold effect, namely, the extraordinary rise in the price of raw cotton, for while, on the one hand, it produced partial paralysis of the Lancashire cotton industry, and so kept at an unduly low level imports of goods which represent more than one-third of the value of all imported merchandise, it created, on the other hand, an extraordinary demand for Indian cotton, and this, with the increased price, accounts for an advance in the

export trade of nearly 962 lakhs (£6,412,600). But putting aside cotton goods, the imports of the year of all other commodities furnish striking evidence of industrial development and general prosperity; for, with only one or two exceptions, all the principal articles were imported to a greater extent than in any previous year. Records were thus established for sugar, provisions, hardware, metals, railway material (including imports for State lines), chemical dyes, precious stones, silk fabrics, woollen fabrics, apparel, glassware, and several other articles of minor importance. The head, machinery and millwork, is not included in the list as, although the imports were nearly 20 per cent larger than in 1902-03, they were still greater in 1896-97. So general in fact was the progress that the only articles of any consequence of which the imports were smaller than in 1902-03 are oils and spices, the cause of the decline being in each case the increased Indian production.

The progress of the exports was scarcely less uniform than of the imports. The exceptional exports of raw cotton have already been mentioned, and there was further a phenomenal trade in grain, for coupled with a trade in rice, which has never been surpassed in value and only once in quantity, there was a remarkable export of wheat, which furnishes one of the most striking developments of the year, and also has been exceeded only once. The favourable character of the seasons is further apparent in the increased yield of the other important agricultural products, namely, oil-seeds and cocoanuts, jute, opium, tea, and indigo. Price is, however, a factor which has also played an important part, for while the prices of cotton, opium, and lac were extraordinarily inflated, of oilseeds they were very much reduced, and the small margin of profit for coffee and indigo was still further restricted by prices continuing to fall. The tea industry, however, improved its condition materially by obtaining a slightly enhanced price for an extremely large crop. The position of the two important textile industries working in cotton and jute cannot be wholly gauged by the state of the export trade, for both of them have a large Indian market, but while the jute mills disposed of a rapidly growing production with uninterrupted profit, the cotton mills, whose profits during the earlier part of the year were considerable, had towards its close to face the difficult and unprofitable position of an extravagant price for the raw material.

The supply of money sufficed to meet unusually heavy demands, for the Bank of Bengal maximum rate of 7 per cent lasted only during the first week of April and from the 21st January to the 9th March, while its minimum rate of 3 per cent ran from the 27th August to the 9th December. The sterling exchange now varies only within narrow limits, the range during the year being from 1*s* $3\frac{15}{16}d$ to 1*s* $4\frac{3}{16}d$. The existence of an unstable and uncertain exchange is, however, still a disconcerting factor in the trade with China. The price of silver which regulates the dollar and tael exchanges was on the average higher than in 1902-03, but the fluctuations covered a wider range and were equally sudden and erratic.

The transactions in treasure reached extraordinary dimensions. The net imports by the public were of gold, 1,632·8 lakhs, and of silver, 683·c lakhs. Including the large importations of silver by the Government for coinage purposes and its remittances of gold to London, the net total is 2,385·7 lakhs, of which 1,392·5 lakhs represents the value of silver and 993·2 lakhs the value of gold. To this has further to be added the production of gold in India to the value of 354 lakhs, giving a total absorption of the precious metals of 2,739·7 lakhs (£18,264,500), a sum which has never been approached in any other year,

## Imports of Merchandise

The value of the imports of merchandise exceeded that of the previous year by 603 lakhs or 7·6 per cent, and surpassed the imports of 1901-02, which previously were the highest, by 330·4 lakhs or 4 per cent. In view of the remarkable growth of the export trade a larger increase might have been expected, but the crisis in the cotton industry restricted the imports of yarn and cotton manufactures, which jointly represent more than a third of the import trade. The advance in the price of these goods and of kerosene is also the principal cause of a rise in the average value of the year's imports, which accounts for nearly one-seventh of the total increase. The aggregate value of the trade in each of the large classes in which all articles are grouped is shown in the figures appended in rupees:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Animals, living (mostly horses) . | 46,65,638 | 44,49,407 | 53,62,833 |
| Articles of food and drink . | 11,75,46,722 | 10,50,62,568 | 11,69,47,243 |
| Metals and manufactures of metal, hardware and cutlery, machinery and millwork, railway plant and rolling stock . | 13,15,41,820 | 14,41,17,326 | 16,37,79,228 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, dyeing and tanning materials . . . . | 2,40,95,992 | 2,44,66,564 | 2,75,07,969 |
| Oils . . . . . | 4,21,89,079 | 3,71,48,452 | 3,53,74,907 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . . | 3,81,62,948 | 3,47,17,810 | 3,88,92,531 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . . . | 45,69,87,595 | 43,79,16,957 | 46,03,68,219 |

It will be noticed that in only one of these groups, Oils, was there a decline, and the smaller imports are satisfactory evidence of the growth of indigenous industries, namely, petroleum refining in Burma and Assam and the production of cocoanut oil in Madras. The increase in the second class is explained by the great trade in sugar; and in raw materials by exceptional imports of precious stones and pearls. The absolute increase is greatest in the principal class of manufactured articles and of practically all of these there were larger imports except of cotton yarn and grey piece-goods, though as a whole the value of the cotton trade was higher than in 1902-03 by 56 lakhs. Proportionately the increase is by far the largest in the class of metals and their manufactures which show general and unprecedented progress, for the decline in railway material is not real but the result of an artificial classification, as including importations for railways owned by the State, the value is the highest recorded.

### Articles of Food and Drink

The value of the principal articles comprised in the group during the last three years has been (₹):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sugar . . . . . | 5,90,02,226 | 4,95,49,099 | 5,93,57,739 |
| Provisions . . . . . | 1,98,46,721 | 1,84,10,504 | 2,02,72,805 |
| Liquors . . . . . | 1,66,45,439 | 1,77,06,286 | 1,82,73,143 |
| Spices . . . . . | 84,75,899 | 84,78,049 | 82,20,161 |
| Salt . . . . . | 77,69,159 | 62,15,043 | 63,69,167 |
| Tea . . . . . | 16,03,936 | 20,59,795 | 20,83,224 |
| Grain and pulse . . . . | 29,05,456 | 13,39,591 | 7,00,111 |

*Sugar*, which is far above all others in this class and accounts for 51 per cent of the total value, is also the third article in the import trade of India, coming next to cotton piece-goods and iron and steel. The great development of this trade is due to the introduction of bounty-fed beet sugar, of which in 1890-91 35,000 tons were imported from Germany. The importation of Continental sugar then declined until 1895-96, when the trade in German sugar was revived, to be followed in the next year and soon after supplanted by Austrian sugar. By 1897-98 the trade in beet sugar had reached what was then considered extraordinary dimensions, while the importations of cane sugar simultaneously increased. The quantity of each kind of refined sugar and the countries from which it was imported during the last seven years is stated below in cwt:

| | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Beet*— | | | | | | | |
| Austria-Hungary | 945,745 | 1,063,737 | 777,821 | 1,121,310 | 2,257,928 | 888,018 | 299,259 |
| Germany | 1,203,309 | 413,971 | 60,526 | 401,980 | 577,139 | 145,666 | 7,205 |
| United Kingdom | 23,192 | 17,783 | 32,712 | 59,636 | 94,150 | 157,388 | 51,865 |
| Other Countries | 33,818 | 30,800 | 1,456 | 9,664 | 6,979 | 266,445 | 171,556 |
| Total | 2,206,064 | 1,526,291 | 872,515 | 1,792,590 | 2,936,196 | 1,457,517 | 529,885 |
| *Cane*— | | | | | | | |
| Mauritius | 1,406,047 | 1,793,607 | 1,417,115 | 2,085,156 | 1,759,203 | 1,915,664 | 2,618,721 |
| China | 291,175 | 185,682 | 316,975 | 487,445 | 182,767 | 568,601 | 348,898 |
| Java | 140,485 | 162,500 | 190,553 | 225,247 | 310,592 | 573,666 | 1,126,135 |
| Straits | 74,357 | 75,656 | 79,999 | 144,166 | 62,485 | 207,810 | 229,993 |
| United Kingdom | 23,192 | 17,783 | 32,712 | 59,636 | 94,150 | 157,388 | 585,412 |
| Other Countries | 94,074 | 3,391 | 26,123 | 47,396 | 82,709 | 106,205 | 391,523 |
| Total | 2,029,330 | 2,238,619 | 2,053,477 | 3,049,046 | 2,491,907 | 3,529,334 | 5,300,682 |
| Total refined sugar | 4,235,394 | 3,764,910 | 2,935,992 | 4,841,636 | 5,428,103 | 4,986,851 | 5,830,567 |
| Value ₹ | 4,70,87,930 | 3,95,32,320 | 3,23,34,904 | 5,47,77,756 | 5,61,77,272 | 4,76,95,619 | 5,62,55,165 |

This table indicates the countries from which the sugar was shipped to India, and in the case of imports from the United Kingdom, it has been assumed that half was beet and half cane sugar until 1903-04, when the division was made according to the certificates of origin presented at the Custom Houses, excepting 23,580 cwt, of which the origin was unknown and which as formerly has been divided in moieties. Prior to November 1902, certificates of origin were not required and hence sugar refined in the United Kingdom escaped the countervailing duties, but when duty was charged with reference to the origin of the raw sugar, the trade was largely diverted to cane sugars which receive no bounty.

The suppression of the trade in beet sugar by the countervailing duties, originally imposed in March 1899 with but a transient effect to meet the direct bounties and greatly enhanced in May 1902 to countervail the bounties created by trade cartels, has not been effective in restricting the volume of the imports, for as the supply of beet sugar was cut off, the void was filled by cane sugar, the receipts of which were greater last year than those of beet and cane sugar combined in any year except 1901-02, and including unrefined sugar, they were very slightly below that year. None of this received any direct bounty except about 23,568 cwt refined in the United Kingdom from raw sugar produced in the Argentine and Chile, and the advantages derived therefrom were fully countervailed by the special duties imposed on it. The imports from Mauritius increased by nearly 37 per cent and established a record, while the increase in the direct imports from Java including unrefined sugar was 133 per cent. This country is rapidly coming into the front rank as an exporter of sugar to India, and the competition with Mauritius is likely to increase owing to the preference obtained in the United States by Cuba sugars under the Reciprocity Convention which came into force in February 1904, and the consequent necessity for Java

sugars to find markets elsewhere. Another noticeable feature of the year was the largely increased imports of cane sugars refined in the United Kingdom. These were chiefly the growth of Mexico, South America, and the West Indies, but also included 56,000 cwt produced in Java and 9,700 cwt of Egyptian origin.

The indirect influence of the beet sugar industry is strongly marked in the development of the Indian demand for good refined sugar, but it had further a direct and important influence on the trade of the last quarter of the year. The Act passed in 1902 to countervail bounties on sugar created by private trade combinations expired on the 31st August 1903, but its operation was extended to the 31st March 1904 by an amending Act passed in August 1903, and the expiring provisions were again revived and continued in force from the 1st April 1904 by an Act passed in March 1904. As long as the special duties were imposed little beet sugar reached India except from Holland which country contributed in all about 174,000 cwt, rather more than half of it being shipped from Belgium. The other Continental countries sent only trifling quantities direct, but of the beet sugar refined in the United Kingdom, which is estimated at nearly 52,000 cwt, half seems to be Danish, as 27,000 cwt of Danish sugar came indirectly to India. On the 1st September 1903, the Brussels Convention, the parties to which had agreed to abolish bounties, came into operation, and though India has not acceded to the Convention, it was decided that, in view of what had passed in the Brussels Conference at which India was represented, the countervailing duties could not be maintained in respect of sugar produced after the 31st August 1903 in any country which is a party to the Convention. A notification remitting the duties was accordingly issued on the 2nd December 1903, and being unexpected by the trade, it caused a slump in prices, the fall in the price of Mauritius sugar at Bombay being one rupee per cwt, or nearly 10 per cent. Until that date prices had been very stable with a downward tendency in Western India and there the fall was immediate as Austrian sugar, to which an opening was thus afforded, is shipped chiefly to Karáchi and Bombay. The anticipated renewal of an extensive trade in beet sugar was not long delayed. The total of the imports from Austria-Hungary during the first nine months of the year was 11,495 cwt. In January the imports were 33,767 cwt, in February 89,977 cwt, in March 164,020 cwt, and during April and May of this year 457,403 cwt. It is impossible to foretell the future of the trade in beet sugar, but it is significant that the expected rise in prices on the abolition of the bounties did not take place, and prices in London were practically the same at the close as at the beginning of the year 1903-04.

Besides refined sugar 209,413 cwt of unrefined sugar was imported into Madras from Java. Brown sugar of similar quality was also very largely shipped to Calcutta, in fact about 830,000 cwt or nearly 97 per cent of the sugar imported from Java into Calcutta was of this description, but there it has been classed as refined sugar, although, as in Madras, it is subjected to a final refining process. Of molasses 13,323 tons were imported from Mauritius, this being very much below the usual standard and 41 per cent less than in the previous year.

*Provisions.*—The value rose by 10 per cent to 202¾ lakhs after a fall of 7 per cent in the previous year, and the trade is on the whole progressive. The principal among the articles specified are *dates* 36¼ lakhs, *dried fruits* 24¼ lakhs, and *salted fish* 19¾ lakhs. The imports of *biscuits* 18 lakhs and *condensed milk* 11⅓ lakhs show marked progress, and these articles with *jams*, 3⅗ lakhs, were not shown separately in the accounts till the latter half of 1902-03.

*Salt.*—The reduction in March 1903 of the duty on salt from two and a half to two rupees per Indian maund, except in Burma where the duty continued to be one rupee per maund, gave only a slight stimulus to imports, for though the quantity received, 446,557 tons, was 5·5 per cent greater than in the previous year, it was still nearly 70,000 tons less than in 1901-02, which was, however, a year of exceptionally heavy imports. About two-thirds of the salt consumed is produced in India, and the revenue returns for the year show an advance of 2½ per cent in the total consumption consequent on the fall in the retail price. Of the total 88·7 per cent was imported into Bengal and 11·1 per cent into Burma.

*Liquors.*—The importations continue to make normal progress. Of the malt liquor imported nearly 93 per cent was from the United Kingdom, the share of Germany being 226,311 gallons, and of other countries 55,020 gallons, out of a total of 4,062,016 gallons. The production of the Indian breweries during 1903 was 6,067,041 gallons, or about 408,000 gallons less than in the previous year, of which the Army Commissariat purchased 46 per cent.

There was a slight increase in *Spirit*, the trade in which advances slowly. The share of the United Kingdom, namely, 54·6 per cent, is much less than in the case of beer. The quantities imported including liqueurs, and spirit, methylated, perfumed, or used with drugs, were in gallons:

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom | 764,125 | 784,983 |
| „ France | 203,911 | 220,208 |
| „ Germany | 238,346 | 218,518 |
| „ Other Countries | 202,892 | 214,623 |
| TOTAL | 1,409,274 | 1,438,332 |

The potable spirit imported from other countries is chiefly arrack from Ceylon, rum from the Straits, and gin from Holland.

The proportions of the different kinds of potable spirit imported were (gals):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|
| Whisky | 610,327 | 606,805 |
| Brandy | 322,167 | 363,359 |
| Gin | 71,461 | 78,897 |
| Rum | 45,257 | 66,768 |
| Other sorts | 178,337 | 184,170 |
| TOTAL | 1,227,549 | 1,299,999 |

The demand for *Wine*, of which 333,023 gallons were imported, does not increase. The quantity was nearly a thousand gallons less than in the previous year, but the value decreased by more than 8 per cent to nearly 27½ lakhs.

The trade in *Spices* declined by nearly 3 per cent in value and 1 per cent in quantity. Betelnuts which account for 63·7 per cent of the total value and of which there is a large home production were in less demand, and the receipts of pepper from the Straits fell off by 45 per cent. The shortness of the crop of cloves in Zanzibar caused a rise in price of nearly 23 per cent.

In prosperous times the imports of *Grain* and *Pulse* are never large, though following the last famine, that is in 1900-01, they reached nearly one hundred thousand tons, valued at 96 lakhs. The reduction this year to about seven thousand tons, valued at 7 lakhs, is a favourable sign of the abundant harvests of the last two seasons.

The importations of *Tea* decreased by 175,500 lb, but the value was slightly higher than in 1902-03. The quantity imported, 3,672,833 lb, is about the average level of importations from 1897-98, when half the transit trade *viâ* Bombay to Persian and Central Asian markets was extinguished by the Russian measures for fostering direct trade between Russia and Eastern Asia by discouraging the trade with Central Asia through Persia and encouraging it to these territories or Northern Persia in transit through the port of Batoum. It is noticeable that last year's imports from Ceylon declined by nearly 347,000 lb to 433,365 lb, and further that the re-exports by sea were only 24·2 per cent of the imports of all foreign tea, compared with 41·7 and 39 per cent in the two previous years. Including re-exports by land, the net imports or consumption of these years averages 1½ million lb, while in 1903-04, in consequence of the diminished re-exports by sea and land, the balance rose to 2,336,000 lb. This may be only a temporary addition to stocks due to the decline of 705,000 lb in the re-exports by sea to Persia, but a larger Indian demand for foreign tea would not be inconsistent with the apparent deficiency in the supply of Indian tea caused by the exceptionally large exports, which is discussed at page 23 of this paper.

## Metals and Manufactures of Metals

*Hardware and Cutlery—*

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | R | R | R |
| Cutlery . . . . | 12,11,227 | 12,67,904 | 12,55,499 |
| Agricultural Implements . | 6,97,286 | 7,73,926 | 7,38,185 |
| Other implements and tools | 9,41,765 | 10,86,191 | 11,16,793 |
| Enamelled iron ware . . | ... | (*a*) 8,14,373 | 18,13,211 |
| Sewing machines . . | 5,91,046 | 7,03,413 | 10,08,458 |
| Unspecified hardware . | 1,36,25,051 | 1,53,45,871 | 1,73,46,157 |
| TOTAL . | 1,70,66,375 | 1,99,91,678 | 2,32,78,303 |

There was an advance last year of 16·4 per cent. The tendency of the trade has been almost constantly progressive, and during the last nine years the value has increased nearly 75 per cent. The first among the enumerated articles is enamelled ware, of which 80 per cent was received from Austria-Hungary and nearly 14 per cent from Germany; but more than three quarters of the whole is under the general head "Unspecified hardware." The share of Continental goods, mostly from Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Belgium, rose somewhat to 26 per cent which is but little above the average of recent years. British goods, on the other hand, which are of superior quality and consequently dearer, did not show the same proportionate advance and their share fell from nearly 70 to 64·7 per cent of the whole. The advance under other countries is mainly due to imports of hardware to the value of 6 lakhs from the United States and 7½ lakhs from Russia, being an increase of 2 and 6 lakhs respectively.

The important trade in *Metals* shows remarkable expansion and reached a level never before approached, for following a rapid advance in 1902-03 there was a further rise last year of 23·6 per cent in quantity and 15·7 per cent in value, the aggregate for copper, iron, steel, and other minor metals, wrought and unwrought, being 496,874 tons, value 929½ lakhs, in 1903-04, compared with

(*a*) Not separately enumerated before September 1902

401,989 tons, value 799¾ lakhs, in 1902-03. This development is a sure sign of industrial and material progress.

*Copper.*—The importation of copper has been steadily rising during the last five years. The advance of 9·4 per cent last year succeeded a remarkable rise of 104 per cent in 1902-03. Besides the industrial demand for electrical and other purposes, there is an almost universal demand for domestic utensils, and the remarkable fluctuations in the quantities imported from year to year are to a large extent due either to a rise in price, which places it beyond the limited means of a very large section of the purchasers, or to the impoverishment of the people by failure of the crops and a rise in the price of the necessaries of life. The following figures of the trade start from 1895-96, the last prosperous year before the famines of 1896-97 and 1899-1900:

| | Cwt | Price per cwt ₹ a. p. | | Cwt | Price per cwt ₹ a. p. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1895-96 | 471,824 | 44 4 9 | 1900-01 | 159,971 | 57 5 4 |
| 1896-97 | 240,648 | 44 10 3 | 1901-02 | 193,822 | 55 12 0 |
| 1897-98 | 322,348 | 44 1 4 | 1902-03 | 395,850 | 49 9 2 |
| 1898-99 | 251,301 | 44 9 11 | 1903-04 | 433,091 | 50 1 3 |
| 1899-1900 | 90,846 | 58 4 0 | | | |

Prices had a downward tendency throughout the year, but the average value in 1903-04 was slightly higher than in the previous year. The total value of the copper imported was 216⅘ lakhs and in 1902-03 196 lakhs.

*Iron and Steel.*—The importations of both iron and steel, of which the prices fell, were unusually heavy, the advance in quantity on those of 1902-03 being 18·5 per cent for the former and 32·7 per cent for the latter, or for both combined 25·4 per cent. The trade during the last six years, which include two years of temporary depression, has been (tons):

| | Iron | Steel | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1898-99 | 164,517 | 84,145 | 248,662 |
| 1899-1900 | 149,097 | 72,636 | 221,733 |
| 1900-01 | 169,992 | 92,586 | 262,578 |
| 1901-02 | 180,604 | 158,468 | 339,072 |
| 1902-03 | 196,292 | 171,007 | 367,299 |
| 1903-04 | 232,570 | 226,585 | 459,155 |

The increase since 1898-99, a year of normal trade, is 210,500 tons or 84·6 per cent. The rise is much greater in the case of steel than of iron, and the returns indicate the increasing use of steel for many purposes; but it is doubtful whether much dependence can be placed on a classification which often cannot be tested, and it may be noted that while Belgium is shown as supplying more steel to India than comes from any other country and as sending about twice as much steel as iron, the official returns of the trade of Belgium show that during the years 1901 and 1902 the exports of iron to India were from eight to nine times greater than the exports of steel. The distinction is however of little consequence, and it is more important to note that quite half the imports of iron and steel from Belgian ports is not of Belgian but German manufacture, and though the quantity imported direct from Germany is only 5·7 per cent of the total trade and direct from Belgium 32·5 per cent, Germany is really as keen a competitor with the United Kingdom as Belgium in the cheaper forms of iron and steel. The nature of the competition is illustrated by the following

statement of the quantities of each description imported from the United Kingdom and from Germany and Belgium jointly during last year (tons) :

| | United Kingdom | | | Germany and Belgium | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total |
| Bars . . . . | 9,129 | 8,524 | 17,653 | 22,308 | 46,835 | 69,143 |
| Sheets and plates . . | 1,683 | 26,555 | 28,238 | 3,080 | 18,337 | 21,417 |
| „ „ galvanised | 61,653 | ... | 61,653 | 402 | ... | 402 |
| „ „ tinned . | 14,897 | ... | 14,897 | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Hoop . . . . | 2,486 | 16,439 | 18,925 | 1,137 | 4,151 | 5,288 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod . | 1,632 | ... | 1,632 | 6,011 | ... | 6,011 |
| Angle, channel, and spring | ... | 11,240 | 11,240 | ... | 2,861 | 2,861 |
| Beams, pillars, girders, and bridgework . . | 4,238 | 17,155 | 21,393 | 166 | 17,327 | 17,493 |
| Pipes and tubes . . | 37,485 | ... | 37,485 | 1,112 | ... | 1,112 |
| Nails, screws, rivets, and washers . . . | 2,825 | ... | 2,825 | 7,236 | ... | 7,236 |
| Other sorts . . . | 36,411 | 13,398 | 49,809 | 2,856 | 42,032 | 44,888 |
| TOTAL . | 172,439 | 93,311 | 265,750 | 44,309 | 131,543 | 175,852 |

Among the descriptions classed under iron the United Kingdom has a preponderance, more or less complete, in all but the commoner kinds, namely, bar, angle and bolt, plain sheets, and nails screws and rivets, in all of which except the last-named the trade declined. The greatest advance was in "pipes and tubes" the value of the imports of which into Burma rose by 21 lakhs to a total of 28 lakhs, an increase for that province of nearly 300 per cent. In the case of steel there was a satisfactory increase in all descriptions.

*Lead* was imported to the value of 18½ lakhs, a rise of 6·2 per cent, due to a larger trade in sheets for lining tea chests, which represent two-thirds of the total and are supplied by the United Kingdom.

A brisk trade in copper is usually accompanied by large imports of *Tin*, and the increase last year, compared with 1902-03 was remarkable, the quantity being greater by 44·6 per cent and the value, which rose to 39⅓ lakhs, by 53·6 per cent. *Zinc* was also imported to the value of nearly 16 lakhs, a rise of over 13 per cent, but as prices were much higher the increase in quantity was less than 2 per cent.

The importations of *Machinery* and *Millwork* reached the large total of 335¼ lakhs, which is 19½ per cent greater than in 1902-03. This level has been surpassed only in 1896-97 when the value of the Bengal trade was 182½ lakhs, compared with 141⅔ lakhs last year. Calcutta also imported machinery to the value of 150 lakhs in 1901-02, but Bombay has exceeded last year's total of 126¾ lakhs only once with 160¾ lakhs in 1898-99. The advance is proportionately greatest in Burma with an addition of 8 lakhs and a total of nearly 34 lakhs. The United Kingdom secured nearly 95 per cent of this trade by supplying goods to the value of 317½ lakhs.

The importations of *Railway Materials* as tabulated in the returns of general trade show a decline of 21 lakhs or 13 per cent, but on the other hand the importations for State lines which are classed as Government stores increased by 48⅔ lakhs. The total of the two classes, 563·7 lakhs, is the highest value recorded, the nearest being 536 lakhs in 1902-03. The value for Companies' lines was 140⅕ lakhs and for State lines, whether worked by Companies or the State, 423½ lakhs.

## Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning Materials

The value of imported *Chemicals* and *Drugs* was 59 and 68 lakhs respectively, there being an increase, compared with 1902-03, of nearly 7 per cent in each case. Chemicals for paper-making show a drop of 1½ lakhs or 18·4 per cent, an indication of the depression of the Indian paper-making industry through the competition of cheap foreign paper. Among the unspecified chemicals is calcium carbide, for which there is an increasing demand owing to the use of acetylene lights in marriage and other processions.

The trade in *Tobacco* increased by 11·3 per cent to 49·7 lakhs. The chief item was cigarettes which increased in quantity by 30 per cent and in value by 25 per cent, that is, to 2,240,200lb, worth ₹29,54,300. The increase in the four years during which this trade has been registered is over 90 per cent, and the prevalence of the habit of cigarette smoking is very noticeable in Calcutta and other large towns. The cigarettes are sold at a price which brings them within the reach of all and creates a demand, for in the case of articles of popular consumption cheapness is in India the first consideration. The United Kingdom sent 64·6 per cent of the imports, and excluding Egypt which supplies the better qualities consumed by Europeans, the other largest contributors are the United States and China which has a factory at Shanghai. The trade has undoubtedly the capacity of very great expansion.

The imports of *Aniline* and *Alizarine* dyes were unusually heavy and surpassed those of any previous year. The quantity of 12,182,600 lb is one-third as much again as in 1902-03, but owing to a considerable fall in the average price of aniline dyes the value, R82,67,010, was only 26 per cent higher. The prices of the cheaper alizarine dyes show a very slight decline, and with an increase of nearly 39 per cent the quantity imported exceeded that of aniline dyes by 1,216,000 lb. About four-fifths of the trade is with Bombay and almost the same proportion is recorded as the joint share of Belgium and Holland, but most of this comes through those countries in transit from Germany which exported to India in 1902 2,198,900 kilogs of alizarine, valued at 2,990,000 marks, and 1,214,800 kilogs of aniline and other coal-tar dyes, valued at 3,766,000 marks. This accounts for practically the whole of the alizarine and about 60 per cent of the aniline.

## Oils

*Mineral oil.*—For the second year in succession the importation of kerosene oil fell by nearly 10 million gallons, so that, compared with 1901-02, there was a reduction of nearly 20 million gallons equal to 21·7 per cent. The imports in 1901-02 were however exceptionally large, and the quantity last year, 71½ million gallons, is not more than 7 million gallons below the average of the previous five years. The decline in Russian oil was 19·4 per cent and in American oil 27 per cent, 57·3 million gallons being received of the former, of which 48 per cent was in bulk, and 6·7 million gallons of the latter, wholly in cases. The imports from other countries, that is, either the Dutch East Indies or Borneo, increased sevenfold to 7½ million gallons.

The cause of the diminished imports of foreign oil is the rapid development of the Indian oil-fields. The output of crude oil in Burma during 1903

was 85⅓ million gallons, an increase in one year of over 55 per cent, and in Assam, where production is also rapidly developing, 2½ million gallons. The quantity of kerosene refined from the total output of crude oil is estimated to have been over 40 million gallons, and the quantity exported from Burma to India during 1903-04 after satisfying local requirements was 34·8 million gallons. This is double the previous year's export, and in addition 734,500 gallons of kerosene were exported to the Straits. This oil is not at present of as good quality as most of the imported foreign oils, but it is cheap, and this secures it a market. The outside prices of kerosene rose, as shown by the rise in import values, but owing to keen competition retail prices have been very variable. Fresh competition has also sprung up from Sumatra and Borneo, these countries sending jointly, either direct or through the Straits, 7½ million gallons of which nine-tenths was in bulk. Sumatra oil was shipped in considerable quantities to India in 1897-98 and 1898-99, about 7½ millions in the former year and 4½ in the latter year, when with the sudden giving out of the existing wells the trade ceased. Its revival now is made under different conditions for the coalition of the interests of the Royal Dutch Company and the Shell Transport and Trading Company in respect of the Eastern markets by the formation of the Asiatic Company, registered in July 1903, with a capital of £600,000, and the important development of the Borneo property of the "Shell" Company have brought great sources of supply, backed by ample capital, into united action. American oil has security for a limited market in its superior quality, but among all kinds of the commoner grades there is likely to be keen competition.

Besides kerosene, lubricating and other oils were largely imported, the quantity, 8,963,000 gallons, being 1½ million gallons greater than in the previous year. This is mostly American, 58 per cent being received direct from the United States and 27·6 per cent from the United Kingdom. Burma also shipped to India 3·2 million gallons of these oils.

The total value of the trade in mineral oil was 338¼ lakhs, of which nearly 301 lakhs represented the value of kerosene.

## Raw Materials

*Coal.*—The imports of coal are the smallest of any year except 1900-01 when English prices were abnormally high. The quantity of coal and coke imported on private account was 180,040 tons, valued at ₹33,77,713, and by the Government 26,789 tons, the total being less than one-fourth of the quantity imported nine years ago, though only 9½ per cent less than in 1902-03. There was a rise in price last year but the average value declined slightly owing to larger imports of cheap coal, of which Australia supplied 25,000 tons and Japan 16,400 tons. The United Kingdom supplied all the requirements of the Government and 75·3 per cent of the private trade. The continuance of so extensive a trade in face of the large output of the Indian collieries, which amounted last year to about 7½ million tons, is due to the fact that good English coal is much superior to the best Indian coal and is often assisted by exceedingly low outward freights to the East.

*Silk.*—The trade in silk has been much depressed during the last two years. Most of the silk comes from China and is directed to the mills in Bombay, while a small share goes to Burma. The exports of Shanghai silk proved to be much below expectations owing to the failure of the Mid-China crop, and the rise in prices made trade unprofitable. The value of the imports increased by 7½ per

cent, but this was due to higher prices as the quantity was less by nearly 6 per cent. The recent decline is brought out by the figures of the trade during the last three years:

| | lb | R |
|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 . | 2,128,483 | 80,96,200 |
| 1902-03 . | 1,639,189 | 55,16,149 |
| 1903-04 . | 1,544,315 | 59,29,527 |

*Cotton.*—Large imports of cotton into India are of rare occurrence, and last year, as might be expected from the high prices prevailing throughout the world and the abundance of the Indian crop, the quantity was quite insignificant, namely, 18,279 cwt, valued at 5 lakhs. Egyptian and American cotton is in demand for spinning the higher counts of yarn, and it is a strange coincidence that, with the reduction of the imports of long stapled cotton to about 11,500 cwt, the spinning of counts of No. 31 and upwards in the Bombay mills should have suddenly risen to over 15 million lb in 1903-04 after three years' stagnation at a level of slightly over 11 million lb.

*Precious stones and pearls, unset.*—Little is known of this trade which shows very remarkable expansion during the last five years. The value made a great jump in 1899-1900 to nearly 93 lakhs, fell in the following year to 58 lakhs, and rose again in 1901-02 to 111 lakhs. The same high level was maintained in 1902-03 with 114½ lakhs, and this was followed by a rise last year of nearly 33 per cent to 152 lakhs or over one million sterling. Pearls from Muscat and the Persian Gulf account for about one-third of the total, while the United Kingdom with 66¾ lakhs and France with 24 lakhs divided most of the remainder. The imports are, it may be noted, duty free.

*Timber.*—This trade has reached considerable dimensions in the last few years, and the value of 42½ lakhs is 27 per cent greater than in 1902-03. Teak from Siam represents nearly two-thirds of the total value.

## Manufactured Articles

*Cotton yarn.*—The trade in yarn has been much depressed during the last few years, and commencing with 1898-99 when the imports were on a scale then considered to be very moderate, the variations have been in millions of lb:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1898-99 . . | 45·5 | 1901-02 . . . | 38·3 |
| 1899-1900 . . | 42·6 | 1902-03 . . . | 33·7 |
| 1900-01 . . . | 34·8 | 1903-04 . . . | 28 |

The fall last year was 16·8 per cent, and though the trade is peculiarly subject to violent fluctuations, so low a level has not been reached for thirty-three years, that is, since 1871-72. Both of the last two years have, however, been unprofitable to spinners, and in 1903 the extraordinary rise and erratic fluctuations in the price of the raw material greatly restricted production and impeded business. At the same time the increasing competition of the Indian mills is manifest in the general results and in the details below of the quantities of yarn imported and locally manufactured. Imported yarn falls principally into the class of medium counts Nos. 31—40, and about two-thirds of this consists of coloured yarn of which Burma is the chief consumer (lb):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 30 . . | 7,408,346 | 7,259,555 | 6,470,114 |
| „ 31 to 40 . . | 23,860,468 | 19,811,878 | 14,498,411 |
| Above 40 . . | 4,405,299 | 4,244,846 | 4,822,593 |

The production of yarn in the Indian mills is on the other hand very largely of the coarser counts :

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 30 . . | 559,412,589 | 563,047,171 | 561,298,972 |
| „ 31 to 40 . . | 12,611,556 | 12,512,860 | 16,517,788 |
| Above 40 . . | 914,021 | 674,495 | 942,315 |

These figures show that progress has slackened, and the slight increase last year in the total production is not real, for it is caused by including returns for two mills outside British India that did not report their production in the previous year. In regard to the arrest of progress the explanation is the same as in other parts of the world, namely, dear cotton and comparatively cheap yarn.

*Cotton goods.*—The magnitude of the trade in cotton goods can be appreciated from the fact that it represented last year 34 per cent of the value of all imported merchandise, and usually the proportion is about 2 per cent higher. As a general rule the volume of the trade responds at once to the enhanced demand created by a year of favourable harvests on which the prosperity of the great body of consumers directly depends, yet during the last two years of increasingly prosperous seasons the value of imported cotton goods has remained much below the level it attained in 1901-02, though there was a rise last year of 2½ per cent, compared with 1902-03. The course of the trade during the last fifteen years in the three classes of grey, white, and coloured goods is indicated in the figures appended, the quantities being stated in millions of yards :

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured, printed, or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average 1889-90 to 1893-94 | 1,223·47 | 368·62 | 374·16 | 62 |
| Average 1894-95 to 1898-99 | 1,209·77 | 418·58 | 351·49 | 61 |
| 1899-1900 . | 1,274·91 | 444·55 | 471·88 | 58 |
| 1900-01 . | 1,192·17 | 467·48 | 343·16 | 59 |
| 1901-02 . | 1,186·76 | 580·09 | 422·86 | 54 |
| 1902-03 . | 1,283·68 | 389·98 | 433·66 | 61 |
| 1903-04 . | 1,085·11 | 466·34 | 481·27 | 53 |
| Average 1899-1900 to 1903-04 | 1,204·53 | 469·69 | 430·56 | 57 |

The decrease in 1902-03 of 190 million yards in bleached goods is traceable to the excessive imports of that class of goods in the previous year, but the falling off last year of 198·5 million yards in grey piece-goods, though partially compensated by improvements in white and coloured cloth of 76·3 and 47·6 million yards, respectively, is the direct result of the abnormal conditions affecting the cotton industry which reduced production and told principally on heavy goods. The percentage of the total belonging to grey goods has, therefore, been unduly lowered, but taking the average for the last five years, the percentage is 57 which undoubtedly shows, in comparison with preceding periods, a progressive decline due to the advance of the other two classes. The principal descriptions of imported goods belonging to the three classes are shown in the following statement in millions of yards :

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. *Shirtings :* | | | |
| Grey . . . . . | 530·29 | 612·43 | 466·06 |
| White . . . . | 87·14 | 70·75 | 65·35 |
| Coloured . . . . | 61·83 | 64·89 | 65·19 |
| 2. *Chadars, dhutis, sáris, and scarves :* | | | |
| Grey . . . . . | 471·58 | 497·9 | 454·58 |
| White . . . . . | 59·41 | 52·82 | 54·65 |
| Coloured . . . . | 47·6 | 55·77 | 67·12 |

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3. *Jaconets:* | | | |
| Grey | 90·44 | 85·85 | 93·34 |
| White | 36·57 | 15·72 | 18 |
| Coloured | 5·09 | 5·04 | 5·02 |
| 4. *Mulls:* | | | |
| Grey | 23·2 | 18 | 25·16 |
| White | 132·66 | 81·33 | 102·11 |
| Coloured | 3·71 | 1·67 | 1·96 |
| 5. *Drills, jeans, sheetings:* | | | |
| Grey | 20·99 | 24·97 | 20·87 |
| White (drills and jeans) | 5·86 | 3·62 | 4·18 |
| Coloured (drills) | 5·51 | 5·61 | 5·63 |
| 6. *Unspecified descriptions:* | | | |
| Grey | ·32 | ·41 | ·33 |
| White | 20·64 | 12·12 | 17·93 |
| Coloured | 72·11 | 66·93 | 93·53 |

Unbleached goods show the principal fall in the first and second groups, in which they are most largely represented, while the largest advance of unbleached goods is in the fourth group and of coloured goods in the second and sixth groups. The further descriptions, which are produced in considerable quantities and belong to either one or two of the main classes, are stated below with the importations in millions of yards:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Grey:* | | | |
| Madapollams | 34·2 | 26·64 | 12·1 |
| T-cloths and domestics | 14·66 | 17·14 | 12·29 |
| Printers | 1·07 | ·33 | ·38 |
| *White:* | | | |
| Nainsooks | 208·8 | 135·17 | 181·85 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins, lawns | 14·94 | 10·82 | 14·15 |
| Checks, spots, stripes | 1·24 | 5·95 | 6·49 |
| Long cloths | 1·66 | 1·67 | 1·61 |
| *Coloured:* | | | |
| Prints and chintz | 151·92 | 156·1 | 171·28 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins | 74·78 | 77·64 | 71·52 |

The most noticeable variations are the recovery in white goods, especially in nainsooks, the advance in prints and chintz, and the decline in grey goods. The re-exports by sea of cotton piece-goods advanced by 10·4 million yards, nearly two-thirds being coloured goods, but the re-exports by land, which are registered by weight and not by length, decreased by 4,764 cwt.

The production of the Indian mills, which chiefly consists of unbleached sheetings, T-cloths, domestics, dhuties, and chadars, increased by 51·1 million yards, and allowing for an increase of 6·3 million yards in the exports by sea and of 20,382 cwt across the land frontiers, there was still a considerable balance to set off against the large deficiency (74·6 million yards) in imported goods. The mill production of white, fancy, and coloured goods also continued to advance and represented last year 18·8 per cent of the quantity of all woven goods.

The extent to which cotton piece-goods are imported from the United Kingdom is indicated below (million yards):

| | 1901-02 | | 1902-03 | | 1903-04 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | from United Kingdom | Total | from United Kingdom | Total | from United Kingdom |
| Unbleached goods | 1,186·76 | 1,178·46 | 1,283·68 | 1,273·06 | 1,085·11 | 1,077·22 |
| Bleached ,, | 580·09 | 574·38 | 389·98 | 382·74 | 466·34 | 458·36 |
| Coloured ,, | 422·86 | 401·23 | 433·66 | 415·46 | 481·27 | 461·68 |

The proportion of grey goods is 99·3 per cent and of bleached goods 98·3 per cent. For coloured goods the proportion is only 95·9 per cent.

Besides these three great classes, there is a comparatively small importation of other fabrics, and the trade in these which was exceptionally active last year increased by 57 per cent or 43 lakhs, a sum half as much again as the increase in piece-goods and nearly treble the falling-off in yarns. The principal descriptions and the figures of the trade are (₹, 000 omitted):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|
| Handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece | 13,39 | 26,29 |
| Hosiery | 32,13 | 50,19 |
| Sewing thread | 22,52 | 21,99 |
| Other manufactures | 29,79 | 41,84 |

The share of the United Kingdom was last year only 11·5 per cent of hosiery and 46 per cent of other manufactures, the remainder being mostly of Continental origin, though Japan sent hosiery to the value of 6 lakhs.

The aggregate value of the imports of cotton yarn and woven and other goods in the last five years has been (in millions of ₹):

| | Yarns | Woven and other goods | Total | Proportion to total imports of merchandise |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 | 24·5 | 270·02 | 294·52 | 42 per cent |
| 1900-01 | 24·89 | 273·46 | 298·35 | 39 ,, |
| 1901-02 | 26·47 | 302·48 | 328·95 | 40 ,, |
| 1902-03 | 22·97 | 281·49 | 304·46 | 39 ,, |
| 1903-04 | 21·42 | 288·69 | 310·11 | 37 ,, |

*Silk goods.*—While the imports of raw silk have declined, the trade in silk manufactures has been progressive, and last year rose in value to 18·3 millions of rupees (the highest level yet attained), compared with 16·3 millions in 1902-03. The share taken by Bombay was 11·5 millions and by Burma, where the increase was 49 per cent, 5·4 millions. Nearly nine-tenths of the piece-goods of pure silk came from China and Japan. The cheap Japanese silks, which are rapidly improving their position, increased last year by 59 per cent and accounted for 68 per cent of the total.

*Woollen goods.*—The heavy fall in all classes of imported woollen goods which occurred in 1902-03 has been followed by brisk revival, bringing the value of the trade up to its highest level, namely, 21·6 millions of rupees, compared with 14 millions in 1902-03. German imitations of Bradford cloth have not maintained the position they occupied two or three years ago, but on the other hand Germany has passed all competitors in the trade in shawls, of which it sent over one million to the value of 23·8 lakhs out of total of 40·7 lakhs.

*Other Manufactured Goods.*—Of the other articles enumerated in this class the following are the most important:

| | 1901-02 ₹ | 1902-03 ₹ | 1903-04 ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel, including boots and shoes | 1,69,41,441 | 1,78,12,795 | 1,99,57,571 |
| Arms and ammunition | 27,19,771 | 24,88,606 | 24,37,422 |
| Books and printed matter | 25,56,233 | 26,15,314 | 28,44,218 |
| Building materials | 20,89,497 | 22,76,035 | 28,70,853 |
| Carriages and carts | 30,99,399 | 37,32,585 | 43,53,866 |
| Clocks and watches | 15,99,678 | 16,54,257 | 17,37,622 |
| Earthenware and porcelain | 25,99,868 | 27,42,648 | 28,00,038 |
| Glass and glassware | 92,53,270 | 94,58,190 | 99,20,759 |
| Instruments and apparatus, scientific | 33,45,636 | 37,93,069 | 42,83,744 |
| Jewellery and gold and silver plate | 13,54,689 | 33,58,890 | 15,03,988 |
| Leather and manufactures of leather | 19,02,048 | 25,76,958 | 26,19,633 |
| Matches | 43,65,854 | 46,76,376 | 50,61,057 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 42,89,551 | 41,61,165 | 42,68,679 |

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | ₹ | ₹ |
| Paper and pasteboard | 52,71,634 | 52,48,058 | 52,18,396 |
| Ships, parts of | 13,70,770 | 8,11,775 | 27,59,234 |
| Soap | 17,61,427 | 22,67,801 | 26,56,673 |
| Stationery | 32,28,576 | 33,51,470 | 37,08,048 |
| Tea chests | 10,17,068 | 13,13,658 | 13,83,473 |
| Toys and requisites for games | 20,04,283 | 22,70,055 | 27,29,113 |
| Umbrellas | 18,04,231 | 18,85,647 | 24,58,877 |

Steady progress is revealed almost throughout. The growth and large dimensions attained by the trade in *apparel* is worthy of notice. Excluding imports of boots and shoes to the value of nearly 28 lakhs, which is principally British trade, the United Kingdom has only half the trade, its nearest competitors being Austria-Hungary and France. In another growing and important trade, namely, *glassware*, Austria-Hungary takes more than one-third, while the United Kingdom has only one-sixth, and in respect of the *matches* British trade now secures only one-sixteenth. The extending use of motors accounts for the larger imports of *carriages*. The large demand for *jewellery* in 1902-03 was caused by the Delhi Durbar and imports have returned to the normal level.

The principal imports are stated in the following list with the value of the trade in each for the last two years (in thousands of rupees):

| | | 1902-03 | | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Cotton manufactures: | | | | |
| Grey piece goods | 1546,19 | | 1326,75 | |
| White „ | 510,93 | | 620,67 | |
| Coloured „ | 659,93 | 3044,64 | 799,12 | 3101,05 |
| Yarn | 229,76 | | 214,21 | |
| Other sorts | 97,83 | | 140,31 | |
| 2. Iron and steel | | 508,65 | | 606,84 |
| 3. Sugar | | 495,49 | | 593,58 |
| 4. Mineral oil | | 346,45 | | 338,27 |
| 5. Machinery and millwork | | 280,38 | | 335,26 |
| 6. Hardware and cutlery | | 199,92 | | 232,78 |
| 7. Copper | | 196,24 | | 216,88 |
| 8. Woollen manufactures | | 140,59 | | 215,94 |
| 9. Provisions | | 184,10 | | 202,73 |
| 10. Apparel | | 178,13 | | 199,58 |
| 11. Silk manufactures | | 163,23 | | 183,35 |
| 12. Precious stones and pearls | | 114,52 | | 152,15 |
| 13. Railway materials | | 161,17 | | 140,20 |
| 14. Glass and glassware | | 94,58 | | 99,21 |
| 15. Spirits | | 95,19 | | 99,15 |
| 16. Aniline and alizarine dyes | | 65,50 | | 82,67 |
| 17. Spices | | 84,78 | | 82,20 |
| 18. Drugs and medicines | | 63,69 | | 68,12 |
| 19. Instruments and apparatus | | 59,8[illegible] | | 66,74 |
| 20. Salt | | 62,15 | | 63,69 |
| 21. Silk, raw | | 55,16 | | 59,29 |
| 22. Chemicals | | 55,22 | | 59,02 |
| 23. Beer | | 51,66 | | 55,91 |
| 24. Horses | | 41,35 | | 52,49 |
| 25. Paper and pasteboard | | 52,48 | | 52,18 |
| 26. Matches | | 46,76 | | 50,61 |
| 27. Tobacco | | 44,65 | | 49,69 |
| 28. Carriages and carts | | 37,32 | | 43,54 |
| 29. Paints and colours and painters' materials | | 41,61 | | 42,69 |
| 30. Timber | | 33,29 | | 42,47 |
| 31. Stationery excluding paper | | 33,51 | | 37,08 |
| 32. Coal | | 37,13 | | 33,78 |

Two-thirds of the trade consists of cottons, metals, metalware, machinery, railway material, sugar, and petroleum.

*General distribution of the import trade.*—Following the classification of imports adopted in the accounts of trade, that is, according to the countries from which they come as shown in the bills of entry, the value of the imports of foreign merchandise was thus distributed amongst the principal countries trading with India:

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. United Kingdom . . | 68·9 | 63·8 | 64·5 | 66·3 | 64·9 |
| 2. Belgium . . . | 2·6 | 3·2 | 3·7 | 3·9 | 3·9 |
| 3. Germany . . . | 2·4 | 3·4 | 3·7 | 2·7 | 3·4 |
| 4. Mauritius . . . | 2·3 | 3·2 | 2·4 | 2·5 | 3·1 |
| 5. Russia . . . | 3·4 | 3·7 | 3·9 | 3·4 | 2·9 |
| 6. Straits Settlements . | 2·7 | 3 | 2·9 | 2·9 | 2·9 |
| 7. Austria-Hungary . . | 3·4 | 4·1 | 4·8 | 3·2 | 2·6 |
| 8. China . . . | 2·3 | 3·3 | 2·2 | 2·8 | 2·3 |
| 9. France . . . | 1·4 | 1·4 | 1·7 | 1·8 | 1·9 |
| 10. United States . . | 1·7 | 1·6 | 1·4 | 1·5 | 1·5 |
| 11. Japan . . . | ·7 | 1·1 | ·87 | 1 | 1·5 |

In respect of the share of the United Kingdom, it should be noted that this relates to private trade only, and that of the imports of Government stores, of which the value last year was 777 lakhs, the United Kingdom absorbed 97 per cent, or nearly one-seventh of its exports to India of private merchandise. Well over one-half of these stores also consists of railway material which is largely imported by Companies working for profit lines leased to them by the State, and such stores, not being the property of the Government, are when dutiable charged with import duty, though most railway material is duty free. In such transactions, therefore, there is no well-marked distinction from private trade.

The present arrangement of the countries places some of them in quite a different position from that which they would occupy if the classification were made according to the origin of the goods. Germany, for instance, should come next to the United Kingdom, for much of the trade credited to Belgium and Holland belongs by origin to Germany, the trade in iron and chemical dyes being notable examples of this. On the whole, the export trade of Germany to India would seem to be almost double that recorded, while Belgium receives credit for quite twice its share. Some Italian goods come from Austrian ports, and trade with China and Japan is credited to the Straits Settlements. The share of the United States would seem to be understated, probably owing to American goods being transhipped at British or Continental ports. Japan has recently made noticeable progress by sending larger quantities of silk piece-goods, hosiery, apparel, copper, and coal.

## Exports of Imported Goods

The re-export trade is mainly carried on with the chief ports of Western India, namely, Bombay and Karáchi, the former being the principal centre for the distribution of European goods to the Persian Gulf and the Arabian and African Coasts and for the collection and re-exportation to Europe of merchandise from those regions, or in the case of wool and a few other articles, of goods imported into India overland. The trade which has never been very large reached its highest point in 1894-95, and since then the decline has been nearly

continuous as shown in the figures appended, giving the value in rupees during the last ten years:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1894-95 | 5,05,74,144 | 1899-1900 | 3,29,24,912 |
| 1895-96 | 4,71,75,159 | 1900-01 | 3,20,85,314 |
| 1896-97 | 4,03,36,372 | 1901-02 | 3,25,98,163 |
| 1897-98 | 3,75,11,720 | 1902-03 | 2,93,56,132 |
| 1898-99 | 3,37,11,965 | 1903-04 | 3,32,55,087 |

The decline is most marked in the trade with ports in the Persian Gulf, the principal cause being the development of direct communications with Europe, which to some extent dispensed with the need of an emporium at Bombay. Trade with the United Kingdom in foreign produce has also fallen away greatly, and this is indirectly due to the same cause, for taking as an example wool, which is the largest export of foreign origin to the United Kingdom, much less of this now comes from Persia to Bombay for re-export. No large expansion of the re-export trade is therefore at all probable, though last year there was a satisfactory improvement of 39 lakhs, giving a higher total value than in any of the preceding four years. In cotton manufactures, which represent 41·3 per cent of the total trade, the improvement was 20·4 lakhs, in metals 10·2 lakhs, in provisions 4·5 lakhs, in oils 3·4 lakhs, and in hardware 3·1 lakhs. The chief decreases were 4 lakhs each in sugar and tea, the reductions being almost entirely in the exports to Persia. This is doubtless the effect of the enhanced Persian tariff, for the higher rates of duty must have impeded transit trade. But on the whole the tariff does not appear to have checked consumption, for excepting (in addition to the articles already mentioned) Indian tea, which also goes indirectly through Russian and Turkish ports, and food grains, which are free or very lightly taxed, the trade with Persia in all the important articles of Indian and foreign produce increased in 1903-04.

## Exports of Indian Merchandise

The arrested development of the export trade during the ten preceding years was followed by a marked revival in 1901-02, further progress in 1902-03, and an advance last year of 2,375 lakhs (£15,836,000) equal to 19 per cent, an expansion for which there is no precedent. The progress made since 1880-81 is indicated in the figures appended:

| | |
|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 | 79,44,52,789 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 | 88,75,15,074 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 | 101,43,43,860 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 103,64,92,715 |
| 1900-01 | 104,16,04,984 |
| 1901-02 | 121,20,50,631 |
| 1902-03 | 125,87,97,516 |
| 1903-04 | 149,63,40,735 |

The fluctuations from year to year are illustrated by the appended list of the principal articles in the trade and their value (R):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton, raw | 10,12,74,007 | 14,42,60,933 | 14,75,71,981 | 24,37,61,464 |
| Rice | 13,21,91,491 | 13,91,95,678 | 18,89,52,506 | 19,08,49,230 |
| Seeds | 9,01,40,351 | 16,77,92,684 | 14,88,25,711 | 14,51,58,299 |
| Jute, raw | 10,86,77,562 | 11,79,72,723 | 11,12,64,752 | 11,71,81,222 |
| Wheat | 38,84,008 | 3,62,72,080 | 4,98,08,201 | 11,61,88,389 |
| Cotton yarn and cloth | 5,70,29,566 | 10,86,53,008 | 10,00,76,891 | 10,47,23,079 |
| Opium | 9,45,54,357 | 8,52,29,854 | 8,01,69,354 | 10,47,01,638 |
| Jute manufactures | 7,86,46,012 | 8,71,14,174 | 9,01,98,987 | 9,46,91,969 |

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hides and skins . . | 11,48,26,371 | 8,23,06,848 | 8,43,51,534 | 8,93,50,894 |
| Tea . . . . | 9,55,09,301 | 8,14,94,893 | 7,36,16,421 | 8,55,79,327 |
| Lac . . . . | 1,06,53,970 | 96,05,279 | 1,85,07,872 | 2,72,38,970 |
| Pulse, millets, and gram | 42,37,883 | 74,16,667 | 1,60,37,173 | 1,88,90,652 |
| Wool, raw . . | 90,29,944 | 79,38,259 | 1,16,53,204 | 1,37,73,957 |
| Coffee . . . | 1,22,84,498 | 1,25,02,200 | 1,32,12,628 | 1,36,73,773 |
| Wood and timber . | 1,07,06,089 | 89,15,416 | 87,51,055 | 1,12,19,810 |
| Indigo . . . | 2,13,59,808 | 1,85,22,554 | 1,20,56,819 | 1,07,62,026 |
| Oils . . . . | 65,65,180 | 69,17,507 | 85,76,793 | 1,03,09,017 |
| Spices . . . | 54,15,153 | 74,08,269 | 63,62,103 | 92,80,760 |
| Silk, raw . . . | 51,22,057 | 66,34,209 | 65,48,153 | 63,42,468 |
| Provisions . . | 57,75,562 | 60,96,611 | 67,88,510 | 61,45,524 |

The direct influence of the seasons, which fortunately during the last three years have been continuously and progressively favourable for agriculture, is as usual strongly marked. Thus the fall in the price of food grains coupled with an abundant supply has resulted in an unparalleled development of the exports of grain and pulse, for simultaneously with very large exports of wheat, millets, and pulse, the trade in rice exceeded in value, though not in quantity, the phenomenal trade of the previous year. So also of oil seeds larger quantities were produced and exported but at much diminished prices, for the remunerative prices of recent years have led to a large increase of cultivation throughout the world and created a temporary excess of supply which has reacted sharply on prices. The seasons were favourable for both jute and cotton. In the case of cotton moreover an extraordinary demand coincided with an unusually heavy crop, and the quantity is the largest ever exported, but the phenomenal increase in value, compared with that of recent years, is due in a greater degree to the inflated price. Inflation of prices also accounts for the large improvements in opium and lac. The tea industry has recovered from the state of depression, and a very heavy crop has been disposed of at a slight advance in price. In only three of the twenty articles specified, namely, indigo, provisions, and silk, is there a decline, and the indigo industry shared in the general prosperity of the year to the extent of obtaining a much superior crop, but a slack demand and the competition of the chemical product have kept down prices to an unprofitable level.

Besides the inflation of the prices of opium, raw cotton, and shellac, higher prices were realised for rice, raw hides, cotton goods, and gunny bags, and the average level was therefore higher than in 1902-03. The increase due to variation in price is thus 626 lakhs, equal to 5 per cent, and to a larger volume of trade, 1,749 lakhs, equal to 14 per cent, the sum of the two representing the actual increase of the year.

The value of the trade in each of the classes under which articles are grouped in the accounts was in ₹ :

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Articles of food and drink . . . | 26,30,45,344 | 29,31,40,145 | 35,89,88,056 | 44,71,02,673 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials . | 12,88,83,296 | 11,86,12,460 | 10,71,44,675 | 13,00,71,626 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . . | 42,71,60,535 | 53,84,01,450 | 52,08,49,462 | 62,67,38,477 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . | 20,94,81,243 | 24,98,37,620 | 25,81,69,367 | 27,64,42,968 |

The great preponderance of raw products exported as food or as material for industrial purposes is very noticeable. Exports of manufactured articles are still on a small scale, and with the exception of textiles the manufacture is generally not carried beyond the initial or preparatory stages.

## Articles of Food and Drink

*Coffee.*—Accurate information regarding the important coffee planting industry of Southern India is not always procurable, but owing to the low prices realised in recent years the area planted appears to be contracting. Practically the whole of the production is exported, and the figures of the trade during the last five years are:

| | Cwt | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 . . . . | 281,353 | 1,48,47,146 |
| 1900-01 . . . . | 246,431 | 1,22,84,498 |
| 1901-02 . . . . | 255,042 | 1,25,02,200 |
| 1902-03 . . . . | 269,165 | 1,32,12,628 |
| 1903-04 . . . . | 291,254 | 1,36,73,773 |

The quantity increased last year by 8·2 per cent, but owing to a decline in the declared value of R2-2-3 per cwt, the rise in the total value is only 3½ per cent. The very large stocks held throughout the world have depressed prices, but the outlook for this year is somewhat better owing to a deficiency in the Brazil crop of 2 million bags, or 16 per cent. Half of this however is made good by an estimated increase in other sources of supply of one million bags. A large share of the Indian crop is taken by France, the proportion last year represented by direct shipments to French ports being 36 per cent of the total exports.

*Rice.*—The exports since 1895-96 are stated below (cwt, 000 omitted):

| | *From Burma* | *From Bengal* | *From other Provinces* | *Total* | *Value* ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1895-96 . | 24,612 | 7,925 | 2,099 | 34,636 | 13,43,07,029 |
| 1896-97 . | 19,370 | 5,053 | 3,397 | 27,820 | 11,85,02,610 |
| 1897-98 . | 18,002 | 4,953 | 3,317 | 26,272 | 11,58,70,280 |
| 1898-99 . | 25,905 | 8,636 | 2,852 | 37,393 | 15,67,76,454 |
| 1899-1900 . | 21,671 | 7,873 | 2,318 | 31,862 | 13,00,58,725 |
| 1900-01 . | 21,394 | 8,106 | 1,566 | 31,066 | 13,14,22,857 |
| 1901-02 . | 24,190 | 6,277 | 3,275 | 33,742 | 13,84,69,897 |
| 1902-03 . | 36,792 | 6,623 | 3,618 | 47,033 | 18,78,73,780 |
| 1903-04 . | 33,346 | 6,936 | 4,159 | 44,441 | 18,95,42,429 |

Commencing with the year immediately preceding the first of the two great famines of the last decade, this table indicates the influence of the conditions of Indian agriculture on the exports of rice from Burma to foreign countries. For Burma, though it is far from the largest producer of rice, as its production is on average not more than one-sixth of the production of Bengal and little, if anything, greater than that of Madras, retains for home consumption less than one-fifth of the crop and exports the remainder to India and foreign countries, the amount of the foreign exports being directly dependent on the state of the Indian demand. Thus in 1900-01, when the foreign exports were comparatively small, there were abnormally large exports to India, and the total shipments of Burma rice amounted to 43 million cwt, or more than any other year except 1902-03 when the total was 45·4 million cwt. Last year comparatively little Burma rice was sent to India, and the foreign exports kept up to a high level, being only 9·4 per cent less than in the phenomenal year 1902-03 which, in regard

to foreign exports, exceeded the preceding year by nearly 52 per cent. Exports from Bengal and Madras were larger, and, owing to a rise in price occasioned by extensive speculation in Rangoon, the value of the export trade was slightly in advance of the preceding year, which had established a record far above all previous years. The Burma crop of 1901-02 was exceptionally large, and in the next year there was a fall of 12 per cent, but this has been followed in 1903-04 by an outturn 21½ per cent larger, thus establishing a fresh record. The total yield for India is however smaller than in 1902-03, owing to a reported large deficiency in the Bengal crop.

The uncertainty as to the destination of exports, owing to the practice of shipping rice to Port Said to await orders for delivery, has been removed by ascertaining from the shippers or by other enquiries the final destinations and correcting the record of exports accordingly. Owing to these corrections the share allotted to Egypt, which formerly averaged about one-third of the quantity of exports, has fallen to about one-sixty-sixth. The most noticeable result of the reclassification is to raise the value of the exports to Germany from about 17 to 192 lakhs, to Holland from 3 to 88 lakhs, and to Austria-Hungary from 34 to 91 lakhs. The share of Europe and Egypt combined which was 44 per cent of the total trade in 1902-03 has, however, fallen to under 30 per cent as the result of the heavy demands from the Far East. Owing to partial failure of its rice crop, Japan imported very largely, the quantity from all sources in 1903 being 723,950 tons or nearly treble the previous year's imports. It, therefore, took more Indian rice than any other country, the exports reaching the very high total of 351,500 tons, giving a value of 296¼ lakhs. Hitherto the demands from Japan have been only occasional, the three years of considerable exports of rice to that country being 1897-98 with 56,900 tons, 1898-99 with 81,200 tons, and 1902-03 with 204,000 tons. The direct shipments to the Philippines began in 1902-03 with 19,500 tons, which increased last year to 43,000 tons. The exports to the Straits amounted to 366,200 tons, the greater part of this being distributed to China and other countries in the Far East. The exports of rice from Bangkok in 1903, 585,000 tons, were 26·7 per cent smaller than in the previous year, and for Saigon with 474,000 tons, the falling off was 41·3 per cent. The trade with South America is principally with Brazil, and the direct exports to that country have declined noticeably in the last three years, namely, from a value of 57 lakhs in 1901-02 to 31⅓ lakhs in 1903-04. Improvement does not seem likely in view of the recent increase of the import duty and other dues by 50 per cent for the purpose of affording protection to the home producer. Indirectly, that is through British and German ports, there are large exports to Cuba, averaging in recent years about 75,000 tons, and this trade also has been subjected from February 1904 to an increase of duty of 20 per cent, while a preference is allowed to the United States of 40 per cent under the recent Reciprocity Convention. The cheapness of the Indian article should, however, enable it to retain its hold on this market, though the cultivation of rice in Texas is extending greatly.

*Wheat.*—As was anticipated the excellent harvest reaped in the spring of 1903 was followed by a large export of wheat, which exceeded the trade of 1902-03 by 780,958 tons or 152 per cent, the rise in value being 657⅓ lakhs or 146 per cent. The fact that the exports of 1902-03 exceeded those of any of the three years immediately preceding it might lead to the inference that last year's trade was abnormal, but a wider view of past conditions rather justifies its

being regarded as a full and healthy recovery from years of abnormal depression. An export duty on wheat existed till 1873, and it was not till the last quarter of the nineteenth century that extension of railways gave proper facilities for export. Then came the severe famine period of 1877-79, recovery from which did not manifest itself till 1880-81, and with an increase in the following year of 167 per cent above the highest figure previously recorded a total not far short of a million tons was attained. From then till the present time, that is, in twenty-three years, the trade has shown great fluctuations, but practically no progress, and it is instructive to contrast the seven worst and the seven best years (000 omitted):

| *Worst years* | Cwt | ₹ | *Best years* | Cwt | ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1894-95 | 6,888 | 2,56,53 | 1881-82 | 19,863 | 8,60,41 |
| 1895-96 | 10,003 | 3,91,39 | 1883-84 | 20,956 | 8,87,76 |
| 1896-97 | 1,911 | 83,64 | 1885-86 | 21,060 | 8,00,23 |
| 1897-98 | 2,393 | 1,34,11 | 1886-87 | 22,263 | 8,62,59 |
| 1899-1900 | 9,704 | 3,90,95 | 1891-92 | 30,303 | 14,38,05 |
| 1900-01 | 50 | 3,01 | 1898-99 | 19,520 | 9,71,97 |
| 1901-02 | 7,322 | 3,25,59 | 1903-04 | 25,911 | 11,08,89 |

The average annual export for the whole period is 706,118 tons, but for the first twelve years it is 911,099 tons against 482,501 tons for the last eleven years, for all the worst years fall in the later period which contains only two of the best years. The period of serious crop failures, which started in 1895-96, had greatly reduced the area placed under wheat, and though $4\frac{4}{5}$ million acres were added this year, the deficiency has not been made up. The area in Northern India, where the crop is most productive and is largely irrigated, has, however, increased greatly, and the yield from this year's harvest, which exceeds that of the previous year by 1·6 million tons, is by far the largest known. An insufficient margin between prices in India and Europe has, however, often restricted the export trade when supplies were ample, but both conditions were favourable last year and are still more so this year, for prices in India are lower than they have been for five years, and the great falling off in supplies from America makes it unlikely that European prices will decline. There should, therefore, be a very large export this year. The conditions also seem favourable for the continuance of a remunerative demand for Indian wheat and large exports unless the prospects are marred by bad seasons, for wheat, though assisted by irrigation, is an uncertain crop, and an extensive failure of other food grains through a defective monsoon would necessarily enhance the price of wheat, though that crop did not suffer.

As in the case of rice, large shipments of wheat are made to Egypt to await orders for delivery, and the correction of the record according to the final destinations, although a shipment of 4,650 tons is still unadjusted, has reduced the share of Egypt from 23 to 1 per cent of the total. Next to the United Kingdom which absorbed 1,061,600 tons, or 82 per cent, Belgium with 140,130 tons had the largest share, followed by France with 44,900 tons and Japan with 9,000 tons.

There is also an expanding trade in wheat flour, over 40,500 tons of which to the value of 53 lakhs was also exported, the chief markets being Aden, East Africa, Mauritius, the Persian Gulf, and Ceylon.

*Other food grains.*—There were very large exports of millets and pulse, and the total of all grains other than rice and wheat, amounting to 272,000 tons, was 15·5 per cent greater than in 1902-03, which was much in excess of any previous year.

The increase in the trade in *Fruits and Vegetables* is phenomenal, for it nearly doubled in 1902-03 and increased again last year by 70 per cent. The expansion is mainly in cocoanut kernel or copra, which is exported from Madras chiefly to Germany and France, the value being 5 lakhs in 1901-02, 18½ lakhs in 1902-03, and last year 42¼ lakhs, a figure which has never been approached. Including fresh fruit and vegetables sent to Ceylon and the Straits, the total value is 54¼ lakhs, compared with 32 lakhs in 1902-03.

*Provisions and Spices.*—The principal articles classed as provisions are preserved or salted fish of various kinds and ghi (clarified butter), each with a value of 23 lakhs. The trade in spices exceeds that of any other year, owing to exceptionally large exports of pepper 51 lakhs, ginger 25 lakhs, and chillies 12⅔ lakhs.

*Tea.*—The exports in the last five years have been:

| | lb (*000 omitted*) | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 . . | 175,038 | 9,09,21,120 |
| 1900-01 . . | 190,305 | 9,55,09,301 |
| 1901-02 . . | 179,685 | 8,14,94,893 |
| 1902-03 . . | 181,423 | 7,36,16,421 |
| 1903-04 . . | 207,160 | 8,55,79,327 |

So much has overproduction been regarded as the bane of the tea industry in recent years, that the diminished productiveness of the crop of 1902 caused by inclement weather and labour difficulties was considered as on the whole advantageous by equalising supply and demand. Yet in 1903 the demand fully kept pace with an abnormally prolific crop, which, with a slight contraction of the area, has given an outturn by far the largest obtained and exceeding that of 1902 by 20 million lb or 11 per cent. This increase is principally due to a very generous growth of leaf but also, in part, there can be little doubt, to freer plucking induced by the inflated price of common grades of tea. Another cause, which has attracted little attention, is probably the very large net addition to cultivation made in 1898 and 1897, or even a year earlier, for though these have long been classed as mature areas they are only now beginning to bear fully. There are also strong reasons for believing that the production was considerably greater than reported; for while it is stated to have risen by 20 million lb, the foreign exports by sea are shown to have advanced by 25¾ million lb. Moreover the total exports by land and sea exceed the total reported production of India (excluding Burma) by 1,049,000 lb, while the exports from Bengal to foreign countries and other provinces exceed the joint crops of Bengal and Assam by 3¼ million lb. The net deficiency for India would be further increased by the amount consumed in the country, which though never ascertained with accuracy, can scarcely be below 3 million lb. Accepting the exports as substantially correct, either invisible stocks must have come forward or the production must have been some millions of pounds greater than was reported. There is no evidence of considerable stocks, but the strong demand for useful low priced qualities, which exceeded the supply, would bring forward what existed. On the other hand, there is evidence in the returns of inland trade that the exports from Assam were nearly 6¾ million lb greater than its reported production, while the tea districts of Northern Bengal exported about 2¼ million lb less than they claim to have produced. The increase in the price of tea sold in London was nearly one-fifth of a penny per lb, and at the Calcutta sales, where the prices of the better grades were not so flat, about seven-twelfths of a penny. The generally poor quality of the crop is, however,

indicated by the value of the total exports, which shows an advance of only 1·3 pices, or nearly one-ninth of a penny, per lb.

The principal countries to which Indian tea has been supplied in the last three years have been (lb, 000 omitted):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . . | 159,014 | 152,895 | 170,186 |
| Russia . . . . . | 1,624 | 3,968 | 9,451 |
| Canada . . . . . | 1,059 | 5,554 | 8,576 |
| Australia . . . . . | 8,575 | 5,795 | 7,269 |
| Turkey, Asiatic . . . . | 2,626 | 3,273 | 2,830 |
| „ European . . . | 144 | 390 | 216 |
| Persia . . . . . | 2,530 | 3,254 | 2,171 |
| China . . . . . | 1,337 | 1,521 | 2,009 |
| United States . . . . | 1,080 | 2,672 | 1,528 |
| Germany . . . . . | 648 | 592 | 546 |

The most satisfactory feature of the year is the increase of exports to Colonial and foreign markets by 8,445,000 lb, bringing the total to nearly 37 million lb. Good progress has been made in Canada, but for the Australian trade, which should do better, the supply of suitable cheap tea is said to be inadequate, and Ceylon will probably obtain by far the largest share of any benefit derived from the recent remission of the duty on British grown tea imported into New Zealand. The great expansion of the year is in the exports to Russia, which is also taking larger quantities of Indian tea from the United Kingdom, for the direct shipments to Russian ports, including 4,905,000 lb consigned to Dalny, amounted to 9,452,000 lb. Purchases were however made in Calcutta by Russian buyers of 11¼ million lb, part of which must have been consigned for transhipment at foreign ports. The shipments of tea to Dalny for conveyance to Russia by the Manchurian and Siberian railways began in July 1903, but later the use of this route, for the few months it remained open, was no doubt stimulated by the enhancement in September 1903 of the duty on Indian and Ceylon tea at the Black Sea ports and European frontiers by 1½ roubles per poud, equal to one penny per lb. On the evidence of purchases at the sales the increased duty in Persia does not appear to have restricted the demand, and though the registered exports have decreased by over a million lb, it must be remembered that tea for Persia is consigned to Turkish and Russian ports as well as to the Persian Gulf.

The funds collected under the Tea Cess Act of 1903 were expended by the Tea Cess Committee in extending by advertisement the sales in other countries, by the grant of a bonus of 6 pies per lb on green tea exported by sea, and in promoting the sale and consumption of tea in Southern India, for Northern India is worked by a special commission whose three years' agreement with the Indian Tea Association terminates on the 31st July 1903. The bonus was admitted only in respect of 2,600,000 lb, though including the gardens in Upper India whose production was mainly to be exported by land or sold locally, the manufacture reached 4,837,700 lb. This year the green tea export bonus has been raised to 9 pies per lb, and a similar bonus is offered for a limited supply of imitations of Formosa Oolongs. The smallness of the cess however limits the grants made by the Committee for these and other contemplated measures to amounts which barely secure the objects in view. The improvement of the situation depends, as all interested in the tea industry realize, on extending the field of consumption, for the position of tea in the English market is likely to suffer from the recent increase of the duty from 6*d* to 8*d* per lb. Increase of production this season, except through coarser plucking,

is not indicated by the returns of cultivation. The reported area and yield were as follows in the last two years:

| | Area (acres) | | Yield (lb) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1902 | 1903 | 1902 | 1903 |
| Assam and Cachar | 339,640 | 338,278 | 132,117,278 | 145,199,101 |
| Bengal | 135,158 | 135,956 | 46,027,823 | 50,888,084 |
| Panjab and United Provinces | 17,440 | 17,446 | 3,755,750 | 3,986,170 |
| Madras | 6,613 | 7,047 | 1,066,662 | 1,123,663 |
| Travancore | 24,880 | 24,580 | 5,360,309 | 7,241,638 |
| Total, including Burma | 525,252 | 524,827 | 188,589,261 | 208,709,571 |

## METALS

*Manganese Ore* is the only important item in this class. The quantity exported last year, 3,623,789 cwt, is eight times greater than the exports of eight years ago, and India is now the third largest producer of this metal. The value, which last year was 22·9 lakhs or 21 per cent greater than 1902-03, shows a proportionately greater rise than the quantity, owing to the increasing production in the Central Provinces, as that ore, which is shipped from Bombay and now amounts to over 60 per cent of the total, is valued at nearly double the price of the ore obtained in the Vizagapatam district of Madras.

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, NARCOTICS, AND DYES

*Saltpetre* is the only chemical substance of which a considerable quantity is exported. The trade decreased slightly last year and has for many years been unprogressive:

| | Cwt | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1901-92 | 354,401 | 35,68,046 |
| 1902-03 | 410,622 | 43,27,283 |
| 1903-04 | 392,114 | 40,75,364 |

*Opium.*—The fluctuations in exports and prices are indicated by the figures below:

| | *Bengal* chests | *Bombay* chests | *Total* chests | *Value* ₹ | *Average price per chest* Bengal ₹ | Bombay ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1898-99 | 41,169 | 25,959 | 67,128 | 7,12,60,093 | 1,049 | 1,082 |
| 1899-1900 | 42,427 | 24,923 | 67,350 | 8,20,37,148 | 1,215 | 1,223 |
| 1900-01 | 44,994 | 24,714 | 69,708 | 9,45,54,357 | 1,361 | 1,349 |
| 1901-02 | 48,062 | 17,541 | 65,603 | 8,52,29,854 | 1,299 | 1,301 |
| 1902-03 | 48,154 | 19,377 | 67,531 | 8,01,69,354 | 1,144 | 1,295 |
| 1903-04 | 48,218 | 25,419 | 73,637 | 10,47,01,638 | 1,460 | 1,349 |

The exports increased last year by 9 per cent in quantity and 30·6 per cent in value, which is the highest attained in the last twenty five years. After reduced production in the two years following the great drought in Central India, large supplies of Malwa opium came forward, and the extraordinary demand caused by failure of the China crop sent up the price, especially of Bengal opium, to an unusual height. The price per chest at the monthly sales in Calcutta ranged from ₹1,240½ in April 1903 to ₹1,765 in February 1904, the closing price for March being ₹1,697½. The year's average of ₹1,460 is greater than of any other year since 1861-62. The exports to China direct increased

by 5,032 chests, to Cochin China by 950 chests, and owing to a shipment of 944 chests to Siam, by 712 chests to "other countries," but the exports to the Straits were smaller by 588 chests.

*Tobacco.*—The trade in tobacco, leaf fluctuates considerably. The principal destinations are Aden (as a centre of distribution), the Straits, Hong Kong, and Holland. The marked decrease noticeable in manufactured tobacco, that is, cigars, is due to the cessation of the demand from South Africa which lasted only for two years. The exports are now principally to the Straits and the United Kingdom. The trade during the last three years has been:

| | Unmanufactured | | Manufactured | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ |
| 1901-02 . . | 166,213 | 17,86,132 | 14,141 | 16,82,867 |
| 1902-03 . . | 130,134 | 14,70,712 | 10,745 | 12,62,547 |
| 1903-04 . . | 101,500 | 12,86,241 | 9,207 | 8,10,438 |

*Indigo.*—The course of the export trade in the last ten years is indicated in the subjoined figures (cwt):

| | From Calcutta | From Madras | From other ports | TOTAL | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | ₹ |
| 1894-95 . | 106,830 | 44,974 | 14,504 | 166,308 | 4,74,59,153 |
| 1895-96 . | 111,714 | 62,425 | 13,198 | 187,337 | 5,35,45,112 |
| 1896-97 . | 109,001 | 43,680 | 16,842 | 169,523 | 4,37,07,570 |
| 1897-98 . | 71,364 | 48,165 | 14,320 | 133,849 | 3,05,74,019 |
| 1898-99 . | 81,779 | 42,760 | 10,648 | 135,187 | 2,97,04,781 |
| 1899-1900 . | 59,078 | 39,853 | 12,489 | 111,420 | 2,69,25,107 |
| 1900-01 . | 71,637 | 18,940 | 11,914 | 102,491 | 2,13,59,808 |
| 1901-02 . | 55,038 | 25,400 | 9,312 | 89,750 | 1,85,22,554 |
| 1902-03 . | 29,403 | 32,242 | 3,732 | 65,377 | 1,20,56,819 |
| 1903-04 . | 29,858 | 24,414 | 6,138 | 60,410 | 1,07,62,026 |

Starting with the years of greatest prosperity, these figures reveal a decline for the last eight years, differing only in the rapidity of the descent. Indigo has always been an uncertain crop varying with the nature of the season, but so long as a reduction of yield meant an enhancement of price fair profits could always be made without much attention to economy. The position, however, suddenly changed when the planting industry had to face a disheartening cycle of bad seasons, combined with a continued fall in prices, owing to the production of synthetic indigo in increasing quantities at a constantly diminishing cost. The immediate and heavy reduction of profits naturally resulted in a great restriction of cultivation and a lamentable depreciation of valuable properties. Admitting, as is often asserted, that natural indigo has indefinable properties, making a superior dyeing agent to the chemical product, the superiority is still not so great as to secure for it a much higher price and the vital question therefore is, Which of the competitors can produce most cheaply? In respect of introducing improvements in manufacture and other economies in production, natural indigo is probably in a better position than its rival, but on the other hand the fact that the quantity of indigo exported from Germany was 37 per cent greater in 1903 than in 1902 is proof of an increasing demand for the chemical product.

Except in Bengal, where the acreage continued to fall slightly, indigo was more largely grown than in 1902 and the yield was everywhere much superior. The larger supplies concurrently with a much restricted demand from cotton printers, owing to the abnormal prices of raw cotton, had an unfavourable effect on the prices of both natural and synthetic indigo, and for Bengal indigo the fall

was 10 per cent. Owing to the low range of prices supplies did not come forward readily, and the exports from Madras, which show a large decline in quantity, account for only 46 per cent of the estimated crop, while the exports from Bengal in April of this year have been unusually large, namely, 7,047 cwt, valued at nearly 14 lakhs. A noticeable falling off occurs in the trade with Japan, especially in Bengal indigo, this being traceable to the effect of the enhanced tariff, in anticipation of which large shipments were made in the previous year. From the 1st April 1903 the duty on Indian indigo was raised from 12·953 yen to 21·422 yen per picul, equal to additional taxation of 1·55 pence per lb or Rs. 7-3-6 per factory maund. The new statutory rate applies to India, owing to her not having acceded to the Anglo-Japanese treaty under which all other indigo-producing countries, through the most favoured nation clause, continue to pay the former conventional duty. This lower rate also applies to German synthetic indigo, which has a further advantage in respect of duty over all vegetable indigos, owing to the much higher percentage it contains of indigotine.

The remaining dyeing and tanning materials are *Cutch*, which showed great improvement, though the exports are still below the level prevailing some years back; *Myrabolams* in which there was also a satisfactory increase; and *Turmeric* of which the exports are fluctuating and decreased largely. The figures of the trade are—

| | 1901-02 | | 1902-03 | | 1903-04 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ |
| Cutch . . | 66,162 | 12,08,775 | 70,305 | 13,42,583 | 112,938 | 19,71,896 |
| Myrabolams . | 1,085,174 | 35,63,652 | 1,157,650 | 37,72,255 | 1,229,609 | 42,10,288 |
| Turmeric . | 82,436 | 9,40,215 | 126,076 | 9,87,577 | 68,234 | 4,52,653 |

## Oils

The value of the trade in oils, which is 20 per cent larger than in 1902-03, is by far the highest attained. This result is due to the large exports of cocoanut oil from Madras which, like the trade in copra, have increased in a remarkable manner, the values being 12·9 lakhs, 29·6 lakhs, and 48·8 lakhs, respectively, during the last three years. Of castor oil which is next in importance the exports decreased and prices continued to fall, the value being 20·8 lakhs, compared with 24·7 lakhs in 1902-03. Mineral oil from Burma which is making remarkable progress in India was also exported to foreign markets (chiefly to the Straits and Ceylon), the value being 4·4 lakhs. This is not a new departure but a revival after two or three years of a trade which so far has only attained small dimensions.

## Raw Materials

*Coal.*—Outside India, where its use is almost universal, there is only a limited demand for Indian coal, as it has to compete in all outside markets with English, Japanese, or Australian coal, and although there is plenty of good coal, the inferior quality of some of the shipments has not improved its reputation. The exports, amounting to 493,070 tons, were 14 per cent greater than in 1902-03, but owing to the continuous fall in prices, which has largely diminished

the profits of the coal industry, the value was slightly lower, namely, 38·1 lakhs, compared with 38·8 lakhs in 1902-03. To Ceylon which is the principal foreign market the exports (257,251 tons) declined, but the shipments to the Straits (142,256 tons) and to Aden (43,410 tons) increased largely. The other principal destinations were East Africa (19,642 tons), Sumatra (13,975 tons), Mauritius (8,802 tons), Java (3,842 tons), and Egypt (3,000 tons).

The output of the Indian mines did not advance as in previous years, for the quantity raised, nearly 7½ million tons, was about the same as in 1902-03, while the value was lower, namely, 198 lakhs, compared with 205 lakhs.

*Cotton.*—The large trade of 1902-03 has been exceeded this year by 65·2 per cent, of which 31·7 per cent is due to larger exports and 33·5 per cent to higher values. In no year has so large a quantity been exported and in few has it been approached, for since the trade began exports over six million cwt have occurred only six times, and in two only of these years have seven million cwt been exceeded, namely, in 1865-66 with 7,171,000 cwt and in 1871-72 with 7,225,400 cwt, while last year nearly 8 million cwt was reached. The crop of 1902-03 was exceptionally large, being estimated at more than half a million bales greater than the large crop of the previous year, and the present season's crop, notwithstanding damage over extensive areas from excessive rain, is also estimated to have attained the same high level owing to an increase of 5 per cent in the area planted. The extraordinary range of prices established by the gambling operations of American speculators was the principal cause of the remarkable rise in the price of Indian cotton, but prices were also advanced by the knowledge of the shortness of the crop in certain cotton growing districts which was more regarded than the reported growth of cultivation. A view of the trade is given in the figures below:

| | *Exports* | | Declared value |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | Value | per cwt |
| | (*000 omitted*) | ₹ | ₹ a |
| 1897-98 | 3,723 | 8,87,13,130 | 23 14 |
| 1898-99 | 5,411 | 11,18,85,385 | 20 12 |
| 1899-1900 | 4,373 | 9,92,50,646 | 22 12 |
| 1900-01 | 3,576 | 10,12,74,007 | 28 5 |
| 1901-02 | 5,700 | 14,42,60,933 | 25 5 |
| 1902-03 | 6,045 | 14,75,71,981 | 24 6 |
| 1903-04 | 7,931 | 24,37,61,464 | 30 12 |

The table appended states the destination of the cotton during the same period (cwt, 000 omitted):

| | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Japan | 1,311 | 1,941 | 2,319 | 634 | 2,526 | 1,722 | 1,680 |
| Germany | 586 | 857 | 531 | 656 | 754 | 1,122 | 1,568 |
| Belgium | 394 | 614 | 298 | 599 | 413 | 779 | 1,089 |
| Italy | 501 | 606 | 370 | 421 | 520 | 647 | 1,001 |
| Austria-Hungary | 334 | 439 | 204 | 381 | 373 | 569 | 705 |
| United Kingdom | 206 | 217 | 133 | 381 | 166 | 372 | 652 |
| France | 177 | 363 | 178 | 279 | 267 | 419 | 560 |
| Spain | 4 | 12 | 20 | 57 | 67 | 111 | 265 |
| China | 151 | 283 | 285 | 109 | 559 | 196 | 165 |

Japan as usual figures as the largest buyer, but including what is received through Belgium, Germany was probably the largest consumer. The demand from Continenal Europe for Indian cotton has always been large, and until the development of the trade with Japan twelve years ago it received nearly the whole

of the exports, either direct or through the United Kingdom. Under prevailing conditions when the world's supply is barely able to meet the demands of spinners, Indian cotton, whatever its deficiencies may be in the matter of staple, will always find a market, and the fact that the area under cotton has increased during the last two years by at least 3 million acres implies that the cultivator finds it a profitable crop. That the agriculturist will share in the benefits derived from the improvement of quality and staple to which attention is now being directed is certain, but nevertheless the party most largely interested and whose advantage will be greatest is the manufacturer, and it is therefore unwise to expect the display of remarkable zeal by the agriculturist in carrying out the contemplated improvements.

*Hides and Skins.*—The trade in raw hides was normal, the quantity by weight being practically the same and the number slightly larger than in 1902-03, while the higher prices prevailing raised the value by 5·4 per cent. During the last five years there have been large exports of untanned skins, and the very high level maintained by the trade during the last three years is double the highest figure reached until six years ago. Compared with 1902-03, last year's trade was greater in quantity by nearly 10 per cent and in value by 6 per cent, while in value it is only 1 per cent lower than the record year 1901-02, though 1·8 per cent less in quantity. Raw hides are shipped principally to the Continent, Germany taking 39·3 per cent of the total exports. The United States with 75 per cent of the total almost monopolises the exports of skins, which are there converted into the finer leathers by rapid processes of chemical tanning. There are practically no exports of raw hides or skins from Bombay (excluding Sind). Madras also does not export raw hides, and comparatively small quantities of untanned skins for that Presidency takes the lead in the tanning industry, which is also of some importance in Bombay. The export figures are:

| | *Hides* | | *Skins* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | R | No. | R |
| 1899-1900 | 13,474,323 | 4,92,49,617 | 16,838,540 | 1,96,33,877 |
| 1900-01 | 14,654,818 | 5,26,62,193 | 14,349,444 | 1,72,22,325 |
| 1901-02 | 7,972,097 | 2,87,99,134 | 20,810,676 | 2,69,67,253 |
| 1902-03 | 8,210,524 | 3,01,76,046 | 18,820,523 | 2,51,93,622 |
| 1903-04 | 8,261,198 | 3,16,75,395 | 19,634,429 | 2,66,86,740 |

*Jute.*—The crop of 1903 was estimated at 6½ million bales, an increase of nearly 20 per cent over the previous season's estimate, and, although the actual yield appears to have been still larger, prices kept up to the same average level as in 1902-03, as both for the mills, which required over 40 per cent of the crop, and for the export trade which increased by 5·2 per cent, there was a full demand. The exports from Madras, chiefly from the port of Bimlipatam, though only 0·6 per cent of the total, are increasing and last year the value approached 6 lakhs. This fibre which is employed locally in the mill at Vizagapatam and is sent to Calcutta in small quantities from the adjoining districts of Orissa is known commercially as Bimlipatam jute, but appears to be a variety of *Hibiscus Cannabinus* or Deccani hemp.

Of the jute exported 43·2 per cent was conveyed to the United Kingdom, 19·1 per cent to Germany, 14·4 per cent to the United States, and 10·5 per cent to France. There are, however, large reshipments from the United Kingdom to the Continent (122,000, 122,700, and 80,600 tons, respectively, in the three years 1901—1903), and of this France receives the largest share or an average of

45,500 tons for the five years ending 1902. The figures of the trade are appended:

| | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | Value ₹ | | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | Value R |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1898-99 | 9,864 | 6,94,12,452 | 1901-02 | 14,755 | 11,79,72,723 |
| 1899-1900 | 9,725 | 8,07,16,465 | 1902-03 | 13,036 | 11,12,64,752 |
| 1900-01 | 12,414 | 10,86,77,562 | 1903-04 | 13,721 | 11,71,81,222 |

*Seeds.*—The seasons have been generally favourable for the oil seed crops, and the volume of the trade has increased, so that the aggregate of all varieties of seeds, though individually this applies to poppy alone, is larger than of any other year, and was closely approached only in 1893-94. In the matter of value, however, last year's trade is comparatively low in the scale, being 226 lakhs less than in 1901-02, a result due to smaller exports of the more costly seeds, such as linseed and rape, and to a general fall in prices. Compared with 1902-03, there was an increase in quantity of over 11·2 per cent, but a fall in value of 2½ per cent. The price of all seeds fell during the year, and the reduction of the average values, stated as percentages of the values of 1902-03, are for castor 16, cotton 2, earthnuts 14·5 linseed 25·8, mowa 15·4, poppy 21·4, rape 7·3, and til 11·2. The extraordinary rise in the price of linseed in 1900, which continued during the two following years, induced a great increase of its cultivation throughout the world, and particularly in the Argentine Republic, which has further had an unusually prolific crop, so that the exports in 1903 were 615,000 tons, or 275,000 tons more than in the previous year. For India half a million tons is a very large export of linseed and so high a figure has not been reached since 1893-94, while the actual record is 543,330 tons in 1891-92. The fall of prices arising from the overstocking of the market has been continuous until April of this year when Rs. 3-4 per maund was quoted in Calcutta and Rs. 5 per cwt in Bombay, but in June the Calcutta price had risen by 8 annas a maund. These prices were nearly approached in 1883 but not actually touched since 1862. Similarly the price of til has fallen to the level of 1860, and of rape and poppy to the levels of 1886 and 1887, respectively. The fall in price is likely to affect cultivation in other countries more than in India, which has the advantage of extremely cheap labour, and although the seasons are uncertain in the regions where oil seeds are chiefly grown, they appear to be at least equally unreliable in the Argentine. The recent large additions in India to the acreage under linseed is also, it should be remembered, not an actual advance but a return to conditions prevailing before the years of drought and famine.

The trade in cotton seed did not continue at the high level it suddenly attained in 1902-03 through the short deliveries of Egyptian cotton seed, but it was still comparatively large in view of its recent origin. The expansion of the trade in earthnuts which increased by 86 per cent in quantity and 59 per cent in value is very satisfactory, for during some years (1896 to 1900) it was threatened with extinction owing to the ravages of disease and drought. Since its recovery the direction of the trade has completely changed, for in 1894-95, when it reached its highest point, out of exports valued at 130 lakhs, 95½ lakhs went from Bombay, but last year out of a total of 113⅜ lakhs less than 6 lakhs belonged to Bombay and 107½ lakhs was the share of Madras, the exports being almost entirely from the port of Cuddalore. There is also in some years a very large export direct to France from the adjoining port of Pondicherry, examples according to the latest figures available being

1,068,477 cwt, value 72·7 lakhs, in 1902-03 and 1,311,377 cwt, value 91 lakhs, in 1901-02. The total value of the trade is therefore much greater than is represented in the accounts relating to British India.

The dimensions and fluctuations in the trade in seeds, and in each of the principal descriptions, are stated below:

*Total trade*

| | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 | 15,775 | 10,09,95,284 |
| 1900-01 | 10,998 | 9,01,40,351 |
| 1901-02 | 22,965 | 16,77,92,684 |
| 1902-03 | 22,194 | 14,88,25,711 |
| 1903-04 | 24,681 | 14,51,58,299 |

*Quantity of each seed (cwt, 000 omitted)*

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Linseed | 7,293 | 5,060 | 7,328 | 6,328 | 8,616 |
| Rape | 3,409 | 1,727 | 6,925 | 3,927 | 4,343 |
| Sesamum | 2,470 | 1,844 | 2,447 | 3,733 | 3,513 |
| Cotton | 43 | 225 | 2,036 | 3,974 | 2,677 |
| Earthnuts | 156 | 232 | 1,085 | 1,036 | 1,922 |
| Castor | 883 | 876 | 1,324 | 1,752 | 1,567 |
| Poppy | 949 | 802 | 934 | 966 | 1,315 |

*Silk.*—The exports vary, ordinarily within small limits, but have not increased for twenty years or more. Prices rose slightly last year and the reduction in the value of the exports was 3 per cent, compared with 1902-03. The statistics of the employment of labour in the mills also indicate stagnation of the weaving industry.

*Teak.*—There were large exports following two years of restricted trade, and both in respect of quantity and value the trade of last year has been surpassed only on two occasions.

*Wool.*—The exports of 33¼ million lb are 19 per cent greater than in 1902-03 and are the highest recorded. Re-exports of wool imported overland also amounted to 5½ million lb. The trade is almost entirely with the United Kingdom.

Among other items in the group are the following, with their values in ₹:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Animal bones | 50,48,815 | 54,97,967 | 41,57,119 |
| Oil-cake | 29,84,230 | 34,22,616 | 39,18,460 |
| Rice-bran | 38,08,333 | 44,40,132 | 42,00,595 |
| Hemp | 38,45,298 | 43,47,247 | 48,53,830 |
| Bristles and fibre | 13,65,600 | 15,79,002 | 20,76,331 |
| Horns | 13,35,759 | 17,05,257 | 12,05,798 |
| Mica | 10,50,511 | 13,13,909 | 12,94,453 |

The diminished export of *animal bones* is by no means to be deplored, for it indicates either decreased mortality of cattle or the larger employment of bone manure in the country. Exports of *rice-bran* now vary according to the

quantity of rice milled, and the trade has more than doubled in the last ten years. The exports of *bristles and fibre* are increasing satisfactorily.

## ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

The relative proportions of the export trade in each principal class of manufactures in the last five years are shown in the figures appended (R):

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton yarn and goods | 8,27,41,246 | 5,70,29,566 | 10,86,53,008 | 10,00,76,891 | 10,47,23,079 |
| Jute goods | 6,26,43,495 | 7,86,46,012 | 8,71,14,174 | 9,01,98,987 | 9,46,91,969 |
| Tanned hides and skins | 3,57,45,259 | 4,49,41,853 | 2,65,40,461 | 2,89,81,866 | 3,09,88,759 |
| Lac | 1,12,48,159 | 1,04,97,976 | 95,45,409 | 1,80,75,444 | 2,67,99,706 |
| Coir | 33,23,104 | 40,17,414 | 37,73,820 | 45,76,348 | 47,90,110 |
| Woollens | 25,32,550 | 29,64,332 | 26,97,670 | 25,15,715 | 27,42,799 |
| Apparel | 15,97,207 | 20,19,814 | 20,99,657 | 26,44,959 | 21,99,556 |
| Silks | 12,89,018 | 12,54,447 | 10,54,694 | 9,48,851 | 8,32,669 |

There has been an increase in each class, except the two of least importance, and in the total of the group of 7 per cent, compared with 1902-03. The value of all manufactures was last year 18½ per cent of the total exports of merchandise, and in the two previous years 20½ per cent. Half of the total, however, represents goods which may be described as partly manufactured, as they supply the material for other manufactures. These are cotton yarn, tanned hides, and lac, the last-named being really misclassified by inclusion in the group of manufactured articles.

*Cotton manufactures.*—The crisis in the cotton industry has been less acute in India than other parts of the world and was later in making itself felt, for the shipments of yarn to all countries, as also to China, which took 93 per cent of the total, were for the first nine months of the official year, or the whole of the calendar year 1903, the largest recorded. But in the last quarter of the year the position changed very much for the worse, the rising price of the raw material, of which very large quantities were being exported, and the small advance in the price of yarn, making profitable working difficult or impossible, so that exports declined and several mills either closed or worked short time. The total trade in yarn, of which the export price was 5 annas and 7 pies per lb or 1 pie greater than in 1902-03, was, however, still very large, being 3½ per cent more in value than in 1902-03, though 5 per cent less than 1901-02, which still holds the record for official years.

The weaving mills were less affected than the spinning mills by the dearness of the raw material, for there was a considerable advance in the price of cloth, and as both the home and the foreign demand was good, production increased by 12·4 per cent. Weaving is certainly the most profitable branch of the textile industry, but its progress is not rapid, for only 1,508 looms were added during 1903, for the whole of India, an increase of 3½ per cent. The export trade in cloth was greater by 9 per cent in quantity and 11·7 per cent in value than in 1902-03, and in point of value has been exceeded (by 1 per cent) only in 1895-96 when the quantity was 16⅘ million yards greater. The principal markets for Indian cloth are the Straits, Ceylon, the coasts of the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea, and East Africa. Dyed and printed cloth, which represent 44·3 per cent of the quantity and 63·2 per cent of the value of piece-goods, is exported principally to the Straits, Ceylon, and the Philippines, and over two-thirds is of Madras manufacture.

The figures of the trade for the last five years are:

| | *Yarn* | | *Piece goods* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lb (*000 omitted*) | ₹ | yards (*000 omitted*) | ₹ |
| 1899-1900 | 240,693 | 6,90,21,784 | 69,556 | 1,26,17,445 |
| 1900-01 | 118,081 | 4,17,05,891 | 69,342 | 1,43,32,297 |
| 1901-02 | 272,468 | 9,31,66,944 | 72,625 | 1,42,54,982 |
| 1902-03 | 248,539 | 8,54,00,344 | 69,535 | 1,32,75,431 |
| 1903-04 | 252,474 | 8,84,15,431 | 75,815 | 1,48,30,434 |

During the same period the production of yarn and cloth in the Indian mills has been (lb, 000 omitted):

| | *in Bombay* | *elsewhere* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Yarn*— | | | |
| 1899-1900 | 371,041 | 142,882 | 513,923 |
| 1900-01 | 243,625 | 109,348 | 352,973 |
| 1901-02 | 415,028 | 157,910 | 572,938 |
| 1902-03 | 419,526 | 156,709 | 576,235 |
| 1903-04 | 414,932 | 163,827* | 578,759* |
| *Cloth*— | | | |
| 1899-1900 | 78,583 | 19,482 | 98,065 |
| 1900-01 | 80,689 | 18,059 | 98,748 |
| 1901-02 | 98,546 | 21,105 | 119,651 |
| 1902-03 | 100,466 | 22,308 | 122,774 |
| 1903-04 | 112,717 | 25,327 | 138,044 |

*Jute Manufactures.*—The dimensions and value of the export trade are (000 omitted in each case):

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags . . No. | 168,324 | 202,908 | 230,127 | 225,196 | 206,298 |
| Cloth . . yards | 307,021 | 365,215 | 418,567 | 492,884 | 552,320 |
| Value of all sorts ₹ | 6,26,43 | 7,86,46 | 8,71,14 | 9,01,99 | 9,46,92 |

There were smaller exports last year of bags, but the trade in cloth was greater by 12 per cent, and the value of all manufactures increased by 5 per cent. The recovery of Australia from the losses caused by years of drought is noticeable in the return of the large trade in bags to a more normal level than the shrunken figures of 1902-03, which were exceeded by 32·4 per cent. The exports of cloth make continuous and rapid progress, and have now surpassed the value of the trade in bags. The chief market for cloth is in the United States, which took 365½ million yards, valued at 307 lakhs or 63·3 per cent of the total. The monster harvest of wheat and linseed in the Argentine required large supplies of gunny cloth, of which 131⅓ million yards, valued at 122¼ lakhs, were shipped to that Republic. The trade with the United Kingdom of 77⅓ lakhs, of which 81·7 per cent is the value of bags, is for re-export principally to North and South America.

The decline in the exports of bags does not indicate diminished production, for the large crops of wheat and seeds caused a brisk internal demand, to meet which exports inland from Calcutta and the neighbouring districts, where the mills are situated, increased by nearly 22 per cent. The value of the goods manufactured in the mills was estimated to be 1,152 lakhs in 1901-02. A similar estimate based on the registered movements of produce by sea and land gives a value of 1,208 lakhs in 1902-03 and 1,279 lakhs, or approximately 8½ millions sterling, in 1903-04. The additions to plant during the last two years have been 2,285 looms and 45,336 spindles. The growth of the industry would be more rapid but for the difficulty of obtaining labour, for it returns good profits.

* Includes the production of two mills outside British territory which made no returns in previous years.

*Hides and Skins, tanned.*—The exports during the last three years are shown below:

| | 1901-02 | | 1902-03 | | 1903-04 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ |
| Hides | 134,249 | 76,70,877 | 107,879 | 62,84,922 | 102,625 | 61,45,989 |
| Skins | 132,193 | 1,88,69,584 | 149,299 | 2,26,96,944 | 161,869 | 2,48,42,770 |

Exceptional mortality of live stock from drought, which happily the country has escaped for the last three years, produces inflated exports of hides and skins, both raw and tanned, and the tanning industry is consequently liable to suffer from the reaction. The exports of hides which have recently been diminishing are still somewhat above the normal level of ten years ago, but the trade in tanned skins, though now improving, is below that level, owing in great part to the development of the trade in untanned skins. The tanning industry is most important in Madras, which exported 91·5 per cent of the hides and 77·1 per cent of the skins, while Bombay took the remainder.

*Lac.*—This is the most variable and speculative of all trades, owing to the extraordinary fluctuations in price. The quantity was slightly smaller than in 1902-03, but the value was greater by 48 per cent and has never been approached, for prices continued to rise and in December were the highest obtained for twenty-nine years.

*Woollen manufactures.*—The exports consist almost entirely of carpets and rugs. There was an improvement last year, but during the last five years there has been no real progress.

*Apparel.*—Smaller exports of boots and shoes to South Africa, of which in 1902-03 there were unusually large shipments, account for the decline last year.

*Silk manufactures.*—The exports are only one-third of what they were ten years ago, and have steadily diminished during the last five years partly, it may be, owing to increasing local consumption, as the production of the mills and weaving establishments is largely designed for the Indian market.

*General distribution of the export trade.*—The value of the exports of Indian produce and manufactures in the last five years was distributed in the ratios stated below among the principal countries with which the trade is carried on:

| | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom | 29·2 | 30·1 | 25·1 | 25·2 | 27·1 |
| China | 13·3 | 11·3 | 14·5 | 12·6 | 11·9 |
| Germany | 7·1 | 8·8 | 8·4 | 8 | 9·9 |
| France | 6·3 | 5·7 | 7·3 | 7·2 | 6·6 |
| United States | 7·2 | 6·9 | 6·9 | 6·7 | 6 |
| Japan | 6 | 2 | 5·7 | 4·6 | 5·6 |
| Belgium | 3·2 | 3·4 | 3·9 | 3·9 | 5·1 |
| Straits Settlements | 5·2 | 6·6 | 5·2 | 6 | 4·8 |
| Italy | 2·5 | 2·9 | 2·4 | 2·7 | 3·3 |
| Ceylon | 3·9 | 4·6 | 3·7 | 3·5 | 3 |
| Austria-Hungary | 1·6 | 2·6 | 2 | 2·5 | 3·2 |
| Egypt | 5·1 | 4·3 | 4·4 | 6·1 | ·9 |

The deposition of Egypt to the bottom of the list is the result of the revised classification, by which goods consigned to Port Said to await orders for delivery, principally rice and wheat, are finally transferred to the account of the country for which they are destined. The transfers have

increased the ratios of Germany and Belgium. The improved position of Japan is due to its extraordinary consumption of Indian rice and a large trade in raw cotton.

## Customs Revenue

The additional and special duties on sugar were remitted by notification in respect of sugar produced after the 31st August 1903 in countries which had acceded to the Brussels Sugar Convention of 1902. Section 8B of the Indian Tariff Act, in pursuance of which special duties were imposed to countervail bounties on sugar created by private trade combinations, expired on the 31st August 1903, but an amending Act passed on the 28th August 1903 authorized the continuance, until the 31st March 1904, of the duties which had been imposed under that section. By a further Act passed on the 11th March 1904 the same section was revived and continued in force with effect from the 1st April 1904, and the special duties were thereupon re-imposed by notification on sugar imported from Denmark, the Argentine Republic, and Russia.

Exemptions from import duty were notified in respect of agricultural implements and memorials of a public character intended to be put up in a public place, including materials to be used in their construction. The tariff valuations for assessment to duty were revised in December and a new schedule of valuations was issued, having effect from the 1st January 1904.

The gross revenue from imports, salt excluded, was R4,45,01,671 and showed no appreciable variation from the gross revenue of 1902-03, but the net revenue after deduction of refunds and drawbacks, namely, R4,32,27,790, advanced by 3·4 lakhs. The ordinary duty on sugar, R29,27,997, increased by a little over 4 lakhs, but the sum of the additional duty, R2,11,990, and the special duty, R21,428, was less than in 1902-03 by nearly 18 lakhs.

The following are the principal items from which the customs revenue on imports is derived (R):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Articles of food and drink:* | | | |
| Spirit | 64,94,209 | 69,64,128 | 75,16,845 |
| Sugar | 72,41,973 | 45,40,786 | 31,61,415 |
| Provisions | 5,57,936 | 5,76,499 | 6,15,469 |
| Spices | 4,42,999 | 4,36,244 | 4,11,734 |
| *Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, dyes:* | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, narcotics | 4,68,457 | 4,97,731 | 5,46,851 |
| Chemicals | 3,41,405 | 3,21,144 | 3,42,890 |
| Dyes and tans | 3,99,771 | 3,88,596 | 4,92,320 |
| *Metals and articles made of metals:* | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 8,96,065 | 10,36,819 | 11,72,396 |
| Copper and brass | 5,47,584 | 10,93,547 | 11,04,258 |
| Iron and steel | 5,21,971 | 5,48,863 | 7,06,153 |
| Silver | 30,63,806 | 39,40,580 | 40,27,356 |
| *Manufactures of cotton:* | | | |
| Piece goods: grey (unbleached) | 50,29,944 | 53,15,838 | 45,74,785 |
| " white (bleached) | 27,25,971 | 17,72,512 | 21,56,913 |
| " coloured | 23,55,804 | 22,99,067 | 27,91,707 |
| *Oils:* | | | |
| Petroleum | 53,05,104 | 53,79,857 | 43,99,912 |

Of the other articles enumerated in the tariff schedules those mentioned below yield individually a revenue of some consequence (₹):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel . . . . . | 8,09,264 | 8,09,564 | 9,18,753 |
| Silk, articles made of silk . . | 11,68,589 | 11,02,840 | 12,09,492 |
| Woollen goods . . . . | 9,88,535 | 7,07,201 | 10,80,195 |
| Glass and glassware . . . | 4,58,766 | 4,75,193 | 4,99,110 |

The articles specified above account in the aggregate for 85 per cent of the total revenue, and including six other articles, namely, arms and ammunition, cotton manufactures (other than piece goods), fruits and vegetables, instruments, wines, and paper, yielding individually between 3 and 4 lakhs and jointly ₹21,33,473, the share of the total is raised to 90 per cent. The lengthy list of dutiable articles in the Indian tariff thus comprises only a small number which yield an appreciable revenue, and those from which the revenue collected is of importance are very few, namely, spirituous liquor, petroleum, sugar, metals (including silver), and cotton piece goods, which yielded last year 69·4 per cent of the whole revenue. Of the articles mentioned those subject to special rates of duty are arms and ammunition, wines and spirits, petroleum, and (in addition to the general duty) sugar. The general duty on imports is 5 per cent, which in the case of cotton goods is reduced to $3\frac{1}{2}$, and in the case of most classes of iron and steel to 1, per cent.

The export tariff schedule is limited to rice and rice flour, a duty of three annas (three-sixteenths of a rupee) being levied on each maund of $82\frac{2}{7}$ lb. The net duty realised last year, ₹1,17,13,557, was nearly 6 lakhs less than in 1902-03, but very much greater than in any other year.

A customs duty at the rate of a quarter of a pie (one-forty-eighth of an anna) per pound has also been levied from the 1st April 1903 on all tea produced in India and exported from any customs port to any port beyond the limits of British India, the collections being paid to a committee constituted to receive and expend the proceeds of this cess on measures for promoting the sale and increasing the consumption of teas produced in India. The gross collections amounted to about $2\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs.

## Balance of Trade

The figures appended state the excess of exports over imports, including merchandise and treasure, in each of the last five years (₹):

| | Including Government transactions | Excluding Government transactions |
|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 . | 20,76,15,000 | 25,25,58,000 |
| 1900-01 . | 16,47,46,000 | 22,10,20,000 |
| 1901-02 . | 26,78,43,000 | 31,76,01,000 |
| 1902-03 . | 27,85,62,000 | 33,58,17,000 |
| 1903-04 . | 37,06,79,000 | 44,97,18,000 |

In the same years the drawings of Council bills have been:

| | £ | Exchange, pence | ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 . | 19,067,022 | 16·07 | =28,48,01,000 |
| 1900-01 . | 13,300,276 | 15·973 | =19,98,38,000 |
| 1901-02 . | 18,539,071* | 15·987 | =27,83,02,000 |
| 1902-03 . | 18,499,947* | 16·002 | =27,74,67,000 |
| 1903-04 . | 23,859,303* | 16·049 | =35,67,95,000 |

* Inclusive of remittances to the Gold Reserve Fund

The nearest approach to the large excess of exports was in 1894-95, but the balance for that year including Government transactions was less by 303·8 lakhs and excluding Government transactions by 772·5 lakhs. The actual balance is also greater than appears, for the foreign trade of the French Settlements which also shows a large excess of exports, has not been included. The recent growth of the trade in earthnuts, which are shipped direct to France and other countries from Pondicherry, has greatly increased the excess of foreign exports over foreign imports, the balance being 17 million francs (102 lakhs) in 1902-03 and 21 million francs (126 lakhs) in 1901-02. The trade of the Portuguese Settlements direct with foreign countries is trifling.

## Gold and Silver

The value of imports and exports is (R):

| | Imports | Exports | Net imports |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Gold—* | | | |
| 1899-1900 | 11,44,88,000 | 2,00,82,000 | 9,44,06,000 |
| 1900-01 | 11,89,80,000 | 11,05,59,000 | 84,21,000 |
| 1901-02 | 8,30,75,000 | 6,36,99,000 | 1,93,76,000 |
| 1902-03 | 13,19,24,000 | 4,42,78,000 | 8,76,46,000 |
| 1903-04 | 20,14,79,000 | 10,21,62,000 | 9,93,17,000 |
| *Silver—* | | | |
| 1899-1900 | 9,52,49,000 | 5,94,82,000 | 3,57,67,000 |
| 1900-01 | 12,67,87,000 | 3,17,15,000 | 9,50,72,000 |
| 1901-02 | 12,29,38,000 | 5,10,10,000 | 7,19,28,000 |
| 1902-03 | 12,18,65,000 | 5,22,98,000 | 6,95,67,000 |
| 1903-04 | 19,98,13,000 | 6,05,60,000 | 13,92,53,000 |

The silver exported has all been previously imported, since none is produced in the country, but of gold there is a large and rapidly increasing production, the value of which last year was R3,53,98,052. This is practically all exported to London for assay, and the net import of foreign gold is therefore larger than is shown above by the amount of the local production, with the addition of which it reaches R13,47,14,649. The nearest approach to this (including the local production) is R12,13,01,067 in 1899-1900, and in the years before gold mining began, R9,83,99,640 in 1864-65. This, however, does not indicate the relative quantities of gold, for the sterling value in 1864-65 was £9,788,714, and, owing to the fall in the sterling value of the rupee from 2*s* to 1*s* 4*d*, only £8,980,976 last year. Similarly the disparity between the value of coined and uncoined silver since the closing of the mints to the public in June 1893, vitiates comparison of the value of the imports of silver before and after that occurrence. Thus last year's net import of 1,392·5 lakhs has been exceeded in value in 1865-66 (1,866·8 lakhs), in 1877-78 (1,467·6 lakhs), and in 1890-91 (1,417·5 lakhs), and nearly approached in 1893-94 (1,371·9 lakhs), but converting the highest of these into ounces on the basis of R107 per 100 tolas, which was the approximate rate for silver bullion when the mints were open, for quantities were not registered till 1887-88, the quantity is 65,428,357 ounces, while owing to the continued fall in the price of silver 78,575,469 ounces were obtained last year for a much smaller rupee value. The registered quantities in 1890-91 and 1893-94 are 51·5 and 54·3 million ounces respectively.

The value of the addition to the stock of gold was as stated above R13,47,14,649 (£ 8,980,976) and included sovereigns and half sovereigns to the value of £4,298,483, of which £1,011,444 was added to the Government

reserves, and the balance, £3,287,039, was held by the public. The whole of the bullion to the value of R3,33,75,230 (£2,225,015) was also taken by the public. The value of the net exports of gold on account of the Government was R6,39,68,379, while its gold reserve was increased by R9,23,102, and the sum of these two, or R6,48,91,481 (£4,326,099), must represent approximately the value of the gold tendered by the public in exchange for rupees.

The exports of rupees exceeded the imports by R58,92,697, and the net withdrawal from the currency caused by this outward flow, which is mainly directed to Ceylon, Arabia, Mauritius, and East Africa, has amounted to 689 lakhs in the last ten years. The value of the net importation of silver bullion was R13,77,70,543, and this includes bullion to the value of R6,18,12,560 imported by the Government to provide for very extensive coinage operations. The value of the silver coinage during the year was R16,53,11,541, and of this R11,09,35,111, representing 41,600,666 ounces, was from new silver. The quantity of new silver passed into the mints of Native States during 1903 was 423,222 ounces.

Stated in ounces the production and the net imports of gold and the net imports of silver in the last five years have been:

| | Gold production | Gold import | Silver |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 | 470,403 | 1,560,812 | 18,646,282 |
| 1900-01 | 566,890 | 106,678 | 49,435,164 |
| 1901-02 | 524,461 | 274,506 | 39,005,192 |
| 1902-03 | 536,928 | 1,416,618 | 43,274,309 |
| 1903-04 | 614,359 | 1,566,237 | 78,575,469 |

It may be of interest to note here that the sterling value of the net imports of gold since 1835-36 is approximately £162,055,225, and in addition to this gold to the value of £18,838,618 has been produced in India since 1885. Figures of the production for earlier years are not available, but it is a negligeable quantity. The net absorption of gold during 69 years has thus exceeded the large sum of £181 millions. For this calculation the net imports have been converted from rupees into sterling at the average rate of the year of importation, and from 1873-74 to 1886-87, when exchange was variable, the conversions have been made monthly. From 1887-88 the quantity has been registered in ounces and this has been multiplied by the English mint price of an ounce of standard gold (£3 17*s* 10½*d*). The value of the net imports of silver for the same period of 69 years reaches the gigantic total of R4,34,53,56,891. This cannot be converted into sterling, since coined rupees and bullion have different values and the proportion of each is unknown, but the quantity as registered from 1887-88 and as estimated for the earlier period on the assumption that R107 per 100 tolas was the approximate price of silver bullion, is 1,655,263,453 ounces.

## Trade with Countries

The trade of India with the world in merchandise, imported and exported, was distributed as follows last year, compared with the two preceding years (R, 000 omitted):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Europe | 130,70,51 | 131,15,12 | 157,32,99 |
| Africa and adjacent islands | 11,49,58 | 14,15,60 | 8,84,02 |
| Asia | 49,47,53 | 48,32,60 | 55,70,30 |
| America | 11,60,62 | 12,04,57 | 13,38,43 |
| Australia | 2,70,06 | 1,92,53 | 2,52,55 |
| TOTAL | 205,98,30 | 207,60,42 | 237,78,29 |

The trade with Europe was 66·1 per cent, and with Asiatic countries 23·4 per cent, of the whole. The proportion for Asia is the same as in 1902-03, but for Europe it is 2·9 per cent higher with an equivalent decrease for Africa, this change being due to the classification of exports to Egypt "for orders" being amended from last year in order to show the countries to which the goods thus shipped are really consigned. Reference to this change of practice, as well as the exaggeration of the trade with Belgium and Holland at the expense of the trade with Germany, and other defects in the trade statistics in the matter of indicating the countries from which imported goods are consigned and exported goods are consumed, has been made in the remarks on the distribution of imports and exports respectively at pages 17 and 34 of this paper, and it may be added that the existence of distributing centres at Hong Kong, Singapore, Colombo, and Aden tend further to obscure the real course of trade. But according to the classification adopted in the trade statistics the value of the trade with each of the principal countries was as stated in the appended list (R, 000 omitted):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. United Kingdom | 83,66,17 | 84,66,41 | 96,30,58 |
| 2. China | 19,47,89 | 18,19,11 | 20,03,66 |
| 3. Germany | 13,21,42 | 12,33,76 | 17,73,97 |
| 4. France | 10,27,17 | 10,56,95 | 11,47,54 |
| 5. Belgium | 7,73,62 | 8,05,72 | 10,97,50 |
| 6. United States | 9,56,83 | 9,74,80 | 10,33,52 |
| 7. Straits Settlements | 8,94,34 | 10,09,71 | 9,87,22 |
| 8. Japan | 7,67,76 | 6,67,03 | 9,74,06 |
| 9. Austria-Hungary | 6,32,44 | 5,77,09 | 7,03,81 |
| 10. Italy | 3,91,42 | 4,25,47 | 5,93,88 |
| 11. Ceylon | 5,49,46 | 5,23,32 | 5,41,19 |
| 12. Mauritius | 3,34,59 | 3,13,20 | 3,85,85 |
| 13. Russia | 3,39,95 | 3,09,64 | 3,28,73 |
| 14. Egypt | 5,60,81 | 8,02,05 | 1,92,91 |

The share of the United Kingdom is 40·5 per cent, but as already remarked (page 17) this does not include the very large supplies for Government departments and State railways, which are a British monopoly.

## Shipping

The large imports, and the unprecedented development of the export trade, caused a proportionate increase in numbers and tonnage, of which 96·5 per cent was steam tonnage.

Below are given the number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to foreign countries:

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 | 8,528 | 8,627,486 | 1,012 |
| 1900-01 | 8,302 | 8,269,430 | 996 |
| 1901-02 | 8,613 | 9,625,317 | 1,118 |
| 1902-03 | 9,089 | 10,926,560 | 1,202 |
| 1903-04 | 9,530 | 12,559,260 | 1,318 |

The total number of steamers which entered and cleared was 5,820, with an aggregate burden of 12,123,216 tons, the average tonnage of each steamer being 2,083 tons.

The entries from and clearances to the United Kingdom were 2,946,128 tons, being 23·4 per cent of the total tonnage. Entries from and clearances to

British Possessions amounted to 5,284,686 tons, or 42·1 per cent of the whole. The tonnage from and to the United Kingdom and British Possessions amounted therefore to nearly two-thirds (65·5 per cent) of the whole.

The vessels which enter and leave the ports of India for the most part fly the British flag, the tonnage under that flag representing about 79 per cent of the whole. Adding the proportion of the tonnage of vessels under the British Indian registry, it appears that a little less than 81 per cent of the trade of India is carried under the British flag.

The number of vessels under foreign flags, which entered and left Indian ports last year, was 1,362, their burden aggregating 2,281,046 tons, a considerable increase in tonnage on the preceding year. The number of vessels under the principal flags are stated below:

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| German | 232 | 270 | 325 | 394 |
| Norwegian | 28 | 78 | 116 | 173 |
| French | 145 | 149 | 157 | 143 |
| Austro-Hungarian | 147 | 164 | 142 | 134 |
| Italian | 60 | 60 | 54 | 63 |

A subsidized steamship service between Venice and Calcutta was inaugurated during the year. The conditions of the guarantee of the Italian Government are that twelve voyages shall be carried out annually by vessels with a minimum tonnage of 3,500 tons. The first vessel sailed from Venice in October 1903. Direct lines of steamers were also established between Calcutta and Antwerp, and Calcutta and Java.

## Frontier Trade

The trade of the year 1902-03 showed a fall in value of 164 lakhs. On the North-Western frontier this was the effect of drought and scarcity, which, in the southern and western provinces of Afghanistan and the adjoining districts of Persia, amounted to famine; while the Kashmir trade suffered from a serious outbreak of plague in the frontier districts of the Panjab. The apparent check to the trade with Western China represented a return to normal conditions on the cessation of the disturbances which had temporarily diverted trade from the Red River route. Last year the trade was on the whole progressive, having increased in value by nearly 105 lakhs, and the figures, which include trade in gold and silver as well as in merchandise, are (R):

| | Imports | Exports | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 | 7,03,90,709 | 5,58,08,331 | 12,61,99,040 |
| 1900-01 | 7,09,92,963 | 6,57,06,943 | 13,66,99,906 |
| 1901-02 | 7,75,11,936 | 6,60,84,142 | 14,35,96,078 |
| 1902-03 | 6,87,11,001 | 5,84,85,658 | 12,71,96,659 |
| 1903-04 | 7,81,66,399 | 5,94,95,029 | 13,76,61,428 |

With the exception of goods carried by railway to or from stations on the frontier the registration of the traffic across the frontiers is of a kind which cannot be relied on as indicating with more than fair precision the nature and extent of the trade by the several routes. As applied to merchandise the information is on the whole accurate enough for practical purposes, but in respect of gold and silver it is fragmentary and so untrustworthy that it is preferable to notice only the figures which relate to merchandise, when considering the geographical distribution of the trade. This is indicated below in respect of the

principal countries, proceeding from west to east along the line of frontier (₹, 000 omitted):

| | | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N.-W. Frontier | Afghanistan— | | | | | |
| | Southern and Western | 71,43 | 58,19 | 68,54 | 53,48 | 68,02 |
| | Northern and Eastern | 44,21 | 48,01 | 61,00 | 71,14 | 70,56 |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur | 1,23,34 | 99,66 | 1,02,65 | 96,06 | 89,08 |
| | Kashmir | 1,88,89 | 2,24,79 | 2,57,67 | 2,05,18 | 2,36,09 |
| N. and N.-E. Frontier | Thibet | 28,97 | 25,32 | 29,72 | 31,43 | 20,62 |
| | Nepal | 3,67,10 | 3,98,61 | 4,09,20 | 3,84,30 | 3,95,28 |
| E. Frontier | Western China | 33,59 | 44,00 | 68,51 | 43,73 | 45,04 |
| | North Shan States | 73,40 | 82,45 | 70,65 | 78,00 | 85,20 |
| | South Shan States | 65,28 | 67,36 | 68,89 | 63,53 | 70,74 |
| | Karenni | 26,76 | 27,08 | 21,58 | 25,65 | 32,86 |
| | North Siam | 25,72 | 28,03 | 34,27 | 25,93 | 33,38 |

About 38 per cent of the whole trade crossed the *North-Western frontier*. The trade with Northern Afghanistan has expanded considerably in the last two years owing, it is reported, to the reduction of tolls and imposts on trade. Information on this point is being collected, but it seems that the heavy transit duties have been reduced to the equivalent of about 2½ per cent *ad valorem* on goods destined for Bokhara, and this should increase the trade in tea and indigo, which are among the few articles admitted at the Russian frontiers. Recovery from the effects of the severe drought appears in the larger trade with Kandahar and Southern Afghanistan. This drought has restricted trade along the caravan route from Nushki to Persian Seistan, both directly by the devastation it caused in the regions served and indirectly by increasing the existing difficulty of transport, so that the value of the trade in merchandise remained at the low level of the previous year, that is, about 5 lakhs. The imports from Dir, Swat, and Bajaur consist principally of agricultural and pastoral produce, and after two bad seasons the surplus for trade was apparently restricted. The imports from Kashmir were greatly reduced in 1902-03 by the epidemic of plague in the Panjab, but there was marked improvement last year except that the trade in linseed, of which the price has fallen greatly, and in silk was much reduced. The exports show similar improvement, although there was a reduction, compared with 1901-02, of 7·7 lakhs, equal to 6·6 per cent, in cotton piece goods, which was probably caused by the rise in the price of all cotton goods, of over 9 lakhs or 8 per cent in salt, and of 4·5 lakhs in sugar.

By far the largest trade which crosses the *Northern and North-Eastern frontier* is that with Nepal, which amounted last year to one-third of the whole frontier trade; and the construction of railways to several points along the very extensive frontier indicates its importance. The decline which appears in the last two years is in the trade with Bengal, but as more than half the imports consist of grain and pulse and a considerable share of oilseeds (of which the prices have fallen greatly) and of ghi, variations are natural. An improved system of valuing the imports and exports, introduced in 1902-03, also explains some differences from previous years. Among the imports is jute, of which nearly 7,000 tons to the value of 7½ lakhs reached Bengal last year. Sabai grass which is used for paper-making in the Calcutta and Lucknow mills is also largely imported, the value being 4 lakhs last year and 6 lakhs in 1902-03. The trade with Thibet has decreased as the result of disturbances caused by the armed resistance to the progress of the mission to that country, for the decline occurs in the trade by the route passing through Yatung.

Of the trade on the *Eastern frontier* that with the Shan States is not strictly foreign trade, for these States are British territory, but some trade passes through them from China and Siam. The direct trade with Western China is

mainly from Bhamo through the treaty port of Tengyueh. The principal imports are raw silk, and mules and other animals. The chief export is Indian cotton yarn which last year showed an advance of 10 lakhs, the value being 24⅔ lakhs, equal to three quarters of the whole export trade. The exports of foreign cotton goods was much reduced, this being a general feature of the whole frontier trade. Allowing for the temporary inflation resulting from the disturbed conditions which diverted trade to this route in 1901-02, while the route *viâ* Mengtse to Tonkin was obstructed, there has been almost continuous, though slow, progress. The great improvement in the trade with Karenne is accounted for by very large imports of teak to the value of 31 lakhs. Cattle and other animals to the value of 12½ lakhs and teak to the value of 11·7 lakhs represented the imports from Northern Siam, the exports being under 9 lakhs and consisting chiefly of cotton and silk goods.

The general character of the trade carried on across the Indian frontiers is indicated by the appended list of the principal articles, imported and exported, with their values in the last three years (₹, 000 omitted):

*Imports*

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cattle | 31,31 | 23,61 | 33,29 |
| Other animals | 36,66 | 24,41 | 38,38 |
| Drugs and medicines, including charas | 24,01 | 23,98 | 20,72 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 37,69 | 28,59 | 31,01 |
| Grain and pulse (largely rice) | 1,37,73 | 1,36,64 | 1,49,78 |
| Hides, skins, and horns | 26,70 | 26,49 | 35,41 |
| Provisions: Ghi | 82,78 | 53,09 | 64,05 |
| Pickled tea | 15,02 | 17,62 | 22,06 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rapeseed) | 53,28 | 39,97 | 34,80 |
| Silk | 25,69 | 20,10 | 17,44 |
| Spices | 13,86 | 20,25 | 17,17 |
| Wood and timber, chiefly teak | 74,60 | 86,31 | 1,22,35 |
| Wool, raw | 32,92 | 23,91 | 27,05 |
| Woollen goods | 14,19 | 9,47 | 11,16 |

*Exports*

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton, raw | 12,76 | 12,49 | 7,60 |
| Cotton yarn: | | | |
| Foreign | 35,68 | 32,58 | 28,28 |
| Indian | 26,11 | 25,63 | 33,30 |
| Cotton goods: | | | |
| Foreign | 1,78,57 | 1,55,28 | 1,50,31 |
| Indian | 64,37 | 52,60 | 63,34 |
| Grain and pulse | 10,35 | 18,65 | 17,39 |
| Metals, mainly brass, copper, and iron | 33,10 | 25,27 | 30,42 |
| Oils | 13,12 | 11,34 | 13,50 |
| Provisions | 21,47 | 20,49 | 19,43 |
| Salt | 43,14 | 31,42 | 31,46 |
| Silk goods | 11,24 | 9,54 | 8,22 |
| Spices | 16,69 | 16,76 | 14,04 |
| Sugar | 32,20 | 25,04 | 27,04 |
| Tea | 13,20 | 11,73 | 10,69 |
| Tobacco | 12,82 | 10,16 | 12,10 |

The relative importance of the trade of each frontier province with the countries adjoining its border is represented in the figures appended (₹, 000 omitted):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sind and Baluchistan | 86,93 | 1,02,18 | 79,58 | 88,47 |
| N.-W. Frontier Province | 4,15,01 | 4,80,76 | 2,07,59 | 2,44,08 |
| Panjab | | | 2,15,95 | 2,13,51 |
| United Provinces | 1,34,00 | 1,63,20 | 1,64,75 | 1,70,52 |
| Bengal | 3,73,08 | 3,18,79 | 2,82,86 | 2,69,60 |
| Assam | 14,45 | 13,68 | 11,69 | 20,51 |
| Burma | 3,43,51 | 3,57,35 | 3,09,55 | 3,69,93 |

## Coasting Trade

The value of the trade in merchandise (imports and exports) was ₹701 millions, this being ₹11 millions greater than in 1902-03. The increase is small, being equal to 1·6 per cent, but the conditions of the trade generally were satisfactory, and a large increase in the value of the coasting trade indicates as a rule a more or less serious failure of the crops, giving rise to a great local

demand for food grains, which, under the designation "Grain and pulse," are the principal export from India to foreign countries. Last year, however, as might be expected, the grain trade was small, and the exports of rice from Burma to Indian ports amounted to only 195,000 tons, this being less than half the previous year's export and only 18 per cent of what was exported three years previously. The rapid expansion of the Burma petroleum industry is shown by the export of 38,048,100 gallons of oil, the quantity exported in 1902-03 being 20,704,400 gallons. Imports of raw cotton into Bombay increased from 717,344 cwt in 1902-03 to 1,241,535 cwt last year, this being the result of the very heavy crop and the great demand for export to Europe and Japan. Exports of Bengal coal increased by 178,000 tons, the total being 1,504,000 tons, of which 817,100 tons were directed to Bombay.

J. A. ROBERTSON

*June 28, 1904*

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 700 D. G. S.—19-7-1904.—1,350.

# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

IN

# 1904-05.

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## ERRATA

### REVIEW OF THE TRADE OF INDIA IN 1904-05

Page 6, line 40, *for* 'including Burma' *read* 'excluding Burma'
Page 23, line 7, *for* 'reported' *read* 'expected'

## ERRATA.

### REVIEW OF THE TRADE OF INDIA IN 1904-05.

Page 25, line 44. Quantity of tea, in thousands of lb, exported in 1900-01.
*For* 109,305 *read* 190,305.

Page 40, line 12, *for* ₹17,277 *read* ₹11,469.

THE

# TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

# FOREIGN COUNTRIES

For the official year ending March 31, 1905

## General Summary

The value of the trade of the year, which is stated in rupees, is set forth in the figures appended, with the values of the four preceding years. The imports and exports on account of the Government, of both merchandise and treasure, are omitted :

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Imports—* | | | | | |
| Merchandise | 76,27,78,853 | 81,51,89,794 | 78,78,79,084 | 84,82,32,930 | 96,67,80,884 |
| Gold | 11,87,13,827 | 8,29,76,205 | 13,14,66,553 | 20,13,11,752 | 21,81,19,745 |
| Silver | 4,59,22,253 | 11,35,07,591 | 12,10,90,721 | 11,81,20,869* | 11,21,55,553 |
| Total imports | 92,74,14,933 | 101,16,73,590 | 104,04,36,358 | 116,76,65,551 | 129,70,56,182 |
| *Exports—* | | | | | |
| Foreign merchandise re-exported | 3,20,85,314 | 3,25,98,163 | 2,93,55,132 | 3,32,55,087 | 3,37,25,945 |
| Indian merchandise | 104,16,04,984 | 121,20,50,631 | 125,87,97,516 | 149,63,40,735 | 154,12,74,199 |
| Gold | 4,30,58,851 | 3,36,64,788 | 3,67,73,923 | 3,80,26,776 | 3,69,85,896 |
| Silver | 3,16,85,700 | 5,09,60,877 | 5,13,26,185 | 4,34,66,954* | 4,27,79,760 |
| Total exports | 114,84,34,849 | 132,92,74,459 | 137,62,53,756 | 161,10,89,552 | 165,47,65,800 |

The grand total of imports and exports is greater by 17·3 crores, or 6·2 per cent, than in 1903-04, that year's trade having been 15 per cent in advance of the previous year. Taking merchandise only, the great advance in imports has corrected the extraordinary disparity between the value of the imports and exports which appeared in the previous year. In 1903-04 the value of the imports for home consumption, that is, deducting the re-exports from the registered imports, increased by 564½ lakhs, or 7·4 per cent, while the exports of Indian merchandise in that year advanced by 2,375½ lakhs, or 18·8 per cent; but in 1904-05 the conditions were reversed, the imports growing by 1,181 lakhs, or 14·4 per cent, while the exports rose by only 449⅓ lakhs, or 3 per cent. Adding the results of the two years, that is, comparing the trade of 1904-05 with the trade of 1902-03, there has been an even development of both imports and exports, the former increasing by 1,745 lakhs, or 23 per cent, and the latter by 2,825 lakhs, or 22·4 per cent. In both years one of the most potent influences affecting the trade has been the American cotton crop. In the former year the scarcity of raw cotton threw the cotton manufacturing industry of the whole world out of gear, and so checked the imports of cotton goods, the principal article of Indian trade, while at the same time it caused exports of raw Indian cotton of unprecedented magnitude. In the latter year an extraordinary abundance of American

* The figures published in the review for the year 1903-04 against silver were: imports 901·3 lakhs and exports 217·7 lakhs, but these were subsequently corrected to the figures shown above by transferring large sums from the Government account to the record of private transactions and revaluing at bullion rates exports of Straits dollars coined at the Bombay mint

cotton brought great prosperity to the cotton spinning and weaving industry, and the revived Indian demand for cotton goods exceeded that of any previous year. Imports of cotton yarn and fabrics in 1904-05 thus increased in value by 22·7 per cent or 703·6 lakhs, and exports of raw cotton fell by 28 per cent or 694 lakhs. The value of cotton piece goods was 627 lakhs greater than in 1903-04 and 458 lakhs higher than the previous record in 1901-02. These results are partly due to the high price of the raw material when the contracts were made, for 311½ lakhs (£2,076,000) more was paid for imported cotton yarn and cloth than the same quantities would have cost at the prices of 1903-04. Imports of other textile manufactures were also beyond all precedent, silks increasing by 15½ per cent and woollens by 42½ per cent. The value of all yarns and textile fabrics reached the great sum of 4,358 lakhs (£29,053,000), this being 23·4 per cent more than the value in 1903-04 and representing 45 per cent of the total imports of merchandise. Most of the large trade in apparel, valued at 189⅔ lakhs, in 1904-05 also consists of made-up textile fabrics. Among the other principal articles the imports were the highest ever recorded of sugar, hardware, metals, and machinery, and there are few articles in which the trade did not improve. The largest registered decrease is in precious stones and pearls, but the valuations of these are not reliable. There were also smaller imports of mineral dyes, following exceptionally large imports in 1903-04, and a decline in the value of imported mineral oil.

That agriculture is the foundation on which rests the whole economic structure of India is nowhere so plainly revealed as in the export trade and its remarkable expansion during the last four years; for putting aside gold and other minerals, of which only a few like coal, salt, saltpetre, petroleum, mica, and manganese have been developed beyond a rudimentary stage and none of which figure prominently in the export trade, all save an almost negligible fraction of the raw produce and articles mainly unmanufactured, which form the great bulk of the exports of India, and of the material for the comparatively small exports of manufactured articles, are provided by its own husbandry, pasturage, or forests. Reference has already been made to the large decrease of 694 lakhs in the value of raw cotton, which was entirely due to the smaller volume of the exports, for the high average price of the previous year was maintained. The characteristic feature of the year's trade is the unparalleled exports of wheat, rice, and other food-grains. The exports of wheat increased in value by 698 lakhs and of all grains by 851 lakhs. Estimated by value the exports are the highest recorded of raw jute, raw skins, raw wool, cotton manufactures, jute manufactures, and lac, while larger quantities than in any previous year were exported of tea, coal, and seeds. Among other principal articles there were smaller exports of spices, indigo, vegetable oils, raw silk, and dressed skins. Notwithstanding extremely high prices fetched by raw jute during the last quarter the jute mills had a prosperous year, while the falling price of raw cotton and the improving demand for yarn and cloth had brought the cotton industry at the close of the year to a condition of almost unexampled prosperity

The registered net imports of treasure by the public were gold 1,811·3 lakhs and silver 693·8 lakhs, to which has to be added the gold produced in the mines, valued at 355 lakhs. Including also the importations of silver by the Government, mainly for coinage, and its remittances of gold to purchase silver or for investment on account of the Gold Reserve Fund, the value of the precious metals retained in India during 1904-05 becomes 1,325·6 lakhs worth

of gold and 1,337·4 lakhs worth of silver, or jointly 2,663 lakhs (£17,753,300). The value in 1903-04 was even greater, namely £18,614,500, so that in these two years, which stand quite apart from any of their predecessors, gold and silver to the value of £36,367,800 have been absorbed by India.

## Imports of Merchandise

The value of the imports of merchandise in 1903-04 was greater than in the preceding year by 603·5 lakhs, or 7·6 per cent, and in 1904-05 there was a further advance of 1,185·5 lakhs, equal to 14 per cent. So large an increase as 1,789 lakhs in two consecutive years is unrivalled, and no other year has quite so large an absolute increase as 1904-05, though it was approached by the increase of 1,057 lakhs in 1880-81, in which year a brisk revival of trade marked returning prosperity after a period of widespread distress and famine, and almost equalled by an advance of 1,135 lakhs in 1893-94, when the temporary stimulus to imports given by the closing of the mints on the introduction of the currency reform raised their value far above that attained in any of the seven succeeding years. The progress made since 1880-81 is shown in the following statement of the average annual value of imports in five quinquennial periods, and although, as stated above, 1880-81 was marked by a notable increase in the import trade, the value in 1904-05 was 92 per cent greater, that is to say, imports have almost doubled in value in 25 years:

| | ₹ |
|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 | 50,63,14,322 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 | 61,19,76,500 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 | 68,47,03,563 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 69,89,38,183 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 | 83,61,72,309 |

The value of each of the seven classes in which articles are grouped in the accounts of trade was in ₹:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Animals, living (mostly horses) | 46,65,638 | 44,49,407 | 53,62,833 | 59,27,625 |
| Articles of food and drink | 11,75,46,722 | 10,50,62,568 | 11,69,47,243 | 13,08,64,808 |
| Metals and manufactures of metal, hardware and cutlery, machinery and millwork, railway plant and rolling stock | 13,15,41,820 | 14,41,17,326 | 16,37,79,228 | 17,18,04,223 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, dyeing and tanning materials | 2,40,95,992 | 2,44,66,564 | 2,75,07,969 | 2,80,41,090 |
| Oils | 4,21,89,079 | 3,71,48,452 | 3,53,74,907 | 3,44,75,069 |
| Raw materials and manufactured articles | 3,81,62,948 | 3,47,17,810 | 3,88,92,531 | 4,22,40,500 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 45,69,87,595 | 43,79,16,957 | 46,03,68,219 | 55,34,27,569 |

The increase in the several classes is principally due to large imports of sugar in the second class, of machinery in the third class, of raw cotton in the sixth class, and of textile manufactures in the seventh class. The increase in the last and principal class accounts for 78·5 per cent of the total increase of the year under all heads, and textile manufactures alone (including yarns but omitting made-up goods classed as apparel), 86·7 per cent of which was British trade, increased by 825·9 lakhs (the increase in cotton manufactures being 703·6 lakhs), an amount nearly equal to 70 per cent of the year's increase. The decline in the fifth class, Oils, which has been continuous during the last three years, is caused by the increasing consumption of indigenous mineral oils refined in Burma and Assam.

On the whole the average value of imports was considerably higher than in 1903-04, as higher prices account for 306 lakhs, or 25·8 per cent, of the total

increase of 1,185·5 lakhs in the value of the year's import trade. This result is, however, almost entirely due to the high price of cotton which increased the cost of yarn and piece-goods by 311½ lakhs and raw cotton by 10¾ lakhs. The cost of sugar was also enhanced by 40 lakhs. The principal savings effected through lower prices are under liquors, 13 lakhs; metals, 14 lakhs; mineral oil, 23 lakhs; and woollens, 10 lakhs.

## Articles of Food and Drink

The value in rupees during the last three years of the principal articles in this group has been:

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sugar | 4,95,49,099 | 5,93,57,739 | 6,90,27,319 |
| Provisions | 1,84,10,504 | 2,02,72,805 | 2,16,57,985 |
| Liquors | 1,77,06,286 | 1,82,73,143 | 1,87,39,733 |
| Spices | 84,78,049 | 82,20,161 | 1,03,23,550 |
| Salt | 62,15,043 | 63,69,167 | 71,12,979 |
| Tea | 20,59,795 | 20,83,224 | 18,96,015 |

*Sugar* accounts for nearly 53 per cent of the total value of this class, and, owing to the rapid growth of the trade during the last three years, it has now reached the second place among Indian imports, that is, next to cotton piece-goods. Throughout the year the trade has been exempt from legislative restrictions except such as remain in the form of countervailing duties against sugar produced in or exported from certain countries (Denmark, Chile, the Argentine Republic, and Russia) which have not adhered to the Brussels Convention, but the imports included the production of only two of these countries, namely, Russia (1,005 cwt) and the Argentine Republic (546 cwt). The changes during the last five years in the imports of beet and cane sugar, respectively, are shown below in cwt:

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Beet*— | | | | | |
| Austria-Hungary | 1,321,310 | 2,257,928 | 888,018 | 299,259 | 1,441,240 |
| Germany | 401,980 | 577,139 | 145,666 | 7,205 | 176,488 |
| United Kingdom | 59,636 | 94,151 | 157,398 | 51,865 | 50,452 |
| Other Countries | 9,664 | 6,993 | 266,435 | 194,408 | 48,308 |
| Total | 1,792,590 | 2,936,211 | 1,457,517 | 552,737 | 1,716,488 |
| *Cane*— | | | | | |
| Mauritius | 2,085,156 | 1,759,203 | 1,915,664 | 2,616,655 | 1,823,675 |
| China | 487,445 | 182,767 | 568,601 | 348,898 | 285,027 |
| Java | 225,247 | 446,686 | 573,666 | 1,335,548 | 2,091,508 |
| Straits | 147,872 | 63,056 | 207,937 | 229,993 | 211,040 |
| United Kingdom | 59,636 | 94,151 | 157,398 | 585,412 | 70,896 |
| Other Countries | 47,509 | 83,198 | 106,412 | 368,872 | 351,163 |
| Total | 3,052,865 | 2,629,061 | 3,529,678 | 5,485,378 | 4,833,309 |
| Total sugar, excluding molasses and confectionery | 4,845,455 | 5,565,272 | 4,987,195 | 6,038,115 | 6,549,797 |
| Value . R | 5,48,02,444 | 5,72,66,293 | 4,76,98,243 | 5,77,23,413 | 6,71,08,487 |

This statement designates the countries from which the sugar was imported, not those in which it was produced or refined; and during the last two years the division between cane and beet-sugar, in respect of imports from the United Kingdom, has been made according to the declarations of origin required for tariff purposes. For the earlier period British exports to India were assumed to consist of beet and cane sugar in equal proportions.

Practically no raw sugar comes to India, but about 34,000 tons of sugar were imported in 1904-05 for refining, five-sixths being landed at Calcutta, where it was all classed as refined sugar on the ground that it was partially refined and crystallised. The remaining 5,810 tons were imported by refiners in

the Madras Presidency and were classed as unrefined sugar. The imports in 1904-05 of both refined and unrefined sugar were greater than in the previous year by 8·4 per cent in quantity and by 16·2 per cent in value, so that the rise in the average price of the year for all qualities of sugar was 7·8 per cent. The large surplus from previous years at the time the Brussels Convention became operative caused a steady decline in prices, and the year opened with the price of beet-sugar in Calcutta lower than it had been for several years except for the sudden and temporary drop during the last quarter of 1901-02, immediately before the additional countervailing duties were imposed. An indirect effect of the Convention was the reduction of the excise duties in Germany, France, and Belgium, and this combined with the abrogation of the cartels in Germany and Austria lowered domestic prices and greatly increased consumption in the producing countries. Following this came an extensive failure of the beet crop owing to drought which was imperfectly compensated by a larger yield of cane sugar. Aided by speculation a rapid rise in prices set in from September and reached its highest point in February, then falling slightly in March and more rapidly in April. Taking 100 to represent the price of German beet-sugar in Calcutta in the first week of April 1904, the maximum was 141·6 in February 1905 and the closing price of the year 135·4. The price of German sugar in London, where the rise was most rapid during November and December 1904, reached a maximum of 16*s* 1*d* in the third week of January 1905 and was 14*s* 3*d* in the last week of March. The variations in the price of Austrian sugar at Karáchi were very similar to those of German sugar in Calcutta, the maximum in February representing a rise of 48·1 per cent during the year. The price of Mauritius sugar in Bombay and of Java sugar in Calcutta had a range of 47 per cent and 50 per cent, respectively.

Turning to the sources of supply, Java, which has rushed into the front rank, occupies the first place as a direct exporter to India with 2,092,000 cwt, while by origin 2,546,000 cwt or 38·9 per cent of the total imports were Java sugar, part of this being refined at Hongkong and part re-exported from the Straits Settlements. The Reciprocity Convention of 1904 between the United States and Cuba, giving a preference to Cuban sugars, and the recovery of the sugar industry of that island had deprived Java sugar of its assured position in the American market, and in 1903-04, as exports to the United States declined, part of the crop was diverted to India. In 1904-05 the trade with India increased simultaneously with large purchases by American refiners as the Java sugar crop of 1904 was unusually large. From Mauritius, which comes next to Java, 1,824,000 cwt were received, which, though less by 30 per cent in respect of quantity than in the previous year, when the crop was abnormally large, is up to the average. The third country is Austria-Hungary which has contributed directly and indirectly 1,505,000 cwt, this being a larger total than in any year except 1901-02, which immediately preceded the suppression of the trade by the additional countervailing duties imposed in May 1902. The revival of the trade dates from the removal of all the countervailing duties by a notification issued in December 1903. The reduction of freights granted by the Austrian Lloyd Company from 17*s* to 14*s* per ton from Trieste, and the promise of a refund of 2*s* for every ton of 1,000 kilos on the freight of 14*s* to those firms, who from October 1904 to the end of September 1905 shall have loaded on board their steamers at least 10,000 tons for Karáchi, Bombay, Colombo, and Calcutta, are among the inducements to

shippers to India, and it is rumoured that an advantage is also secured by manufacturers in special railway freights to the port of shipment. The three countries mentioned have supplied 89·7 per cent of the total imports, and next to these as countries of origin come Egypt with 332,000 cwt and Germany with 151,000 cwt. The imports of sugar refined in the United Kingdom have fallen from 637,277 cwt to 121,348 cwt. This trade was the outcome of the advantages conferred on cane sugars by the repressive legislation against the introduction of bounty-fed beet sugar, but with the withdrawal of restrictions on the latter the advantages of refining cane sugars for the Indian market ceased and the British trade therein declined.

The growth of the imports of sugar is chiefly remarkable from the fact that India is the largest individual producer of sugar in the world. Well-informed opinion has put the annual production at 3 million tons, which is about one-third as much again as appears in the commercial estimates of the crop. Taking the higher estimate as the outside limit and adding the imports of 1904-05, which represent one-ninth of the home production, the quantity for consumption provides only 25 lb per head of the population, a rate less than that estimated for Germany (28 lb) and only slightly above the average for France (24 lb) during 1902-03, when the artificial restrictions on consumption were most powerful, and only 28 per cent of the estimated *per capita* consumption of the United Kingdom in that year. A considerable advance on the present rate of consumption is therefore possible, and the material will be obtained by importation so long as the home production fails, as it does now, to provide a sufficiency of refined sugar of good quality to meet the demand. During the four years following 1898-99 the area under cane decreased, chiefly from climatic causes, but last season showed a considerable recovery and the yield was remarkably good.

*Provisions.*—Numerous and heterogeneous articles are included in this class, of which the value increased during the year by nearly 7 per cent to 216½ lakhs. *Dates* (41 lakhs) from the Persian Gulf and Muscat, *dried-fruits*, chiefly almonds, (22⅔ lakhs), from Persia, France, and Italy, and *salted-fish* (25 lakhs) from the Straits, *biscuits* (17 lakhs), and *condensed milk* (13 lakhs) are the principal items. The unspecified imports have risen in value to 70¾ lakhs, but this will be reduced from the current year by the separate enumeration of "canned provisions," "pickles, vinegar, sauces, and condiments," and "farinaceous foods" as well as "almonds" under other sorts of dried fruits.

*Salt.*—The quantity imported 486,980 tons was 9 per cent greater than in the previous year, but this provided slightly less than one quarter of the quantity consumed, the balance being produced in India. The consumption increased by 4·7 per cent, for with the reduction of the duty in India (including Burma) by 8 annas a maund in March 1903 prices fell, and on the 22nd March 1905 a further reduction of 8 annas in the Indian duty was notified, the duty per maund thus becoming 1½ rupees in India and remaining at one rupee in Burma. The imports into Bengal absorbed 90 per cent of the total quantity, and all but a trifling quantity of the remainder was as usual taken by Burma.

*Liquors.*—Of the three main divisions, malt liquor, spirits, and wines, the trade in the two former only is progressive. The quantity of the beer imported increased by 13 per cent but the value only by 8 per cent to 60⅘ lakhs. Rather more than 93 per cent was from the United Kingdom, while shipments direct from Germany amounted to 252,923 gallons and from other countries

56,577 gallons out of a total of 4,607,530 gallons. The imports represent little more than two-thirds of the quantity brewed in India during 1904 (6,219,761 gallons). The Army Commissariat purchased 46 per cent of the production, which, though larger by 152,720 gallons than in 1903, was still a quarter of a million gallons less than in 1902.

The increase in *Spirits* of which the value has reached 98⅘ lakhs was slight. Including liqueurs and methylated and perfumed spirit, the quantities imported were in gallons:

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom | 764,125 | 784,981 | 772,350 |
| „ France | 203,911 | 220,208 | 252,815 |
| „ Germany | 238,346 | 219,207 | 195,579 |
| „ Other Countries | 202,892 | 213,934 | 253,054 |
| TOTAL | 1,409,274 | 1,438,330 | 1,473,798 |

The potable spirit imported from other countries is chiefly arrack from Ceylon, rum from the Straits, and gin from Holland.

The proportions of the different kinds of potable spirit imported were (gallons):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Whisky | 610,327 | 606,805 | 589,474 |
| Brandy | 322,167 | 363,359 | 372,723 |
| Gin | 71,461 | 78,897 | 76,131 |
| Rum | 45,257 | 66,768 | 70,609 |
| Other sorts | 178,337 | 184,170 | 194,059 |
| TOTAL | 1,227,549 | 1,299,999 | 1,302,996 |

The value of the *wines* imported decreased by nearly 5 per cent to 26⅕ lakhs and the quantity by 4 per cent to 319,209 gallons. The decline is slow, but looking at the imports of ten years ago it is clearly marked.

*Spices.*—The imports have increased by 19 per cent in quantity and 25·6 per cent in value. Betelnuts are the principal item and their value has risen by 36 per cent to 71·3 lakhs. The recorded rise in price is 13 per cent, but this is largely due to the correction of undervaluations at Calcutta which is credited with 60·5 per cent of the trade, and Madras with 24 per cent. The chief source of supply is the Straits Settlements which sent 88 9/10 million lb out of a total of 104¾ million lb. Next to betel-nuts come cloves from Zanzibar with imports valued at 19⅓ lakhs, the increase of nearly 14 per cent being due to a rise in price, for notwithstanding a large crop, nearly 9 million lb or 160 per cent greater than very short crop of 1903, the average price was 15·7 per cent higher than the high price of 1903-04 owing to a large demand from other countries and speculation in Bombay.

The quantity of *Tea* imported was 3,734,579 lb compared with 3,672,833 lb in 1903-04, but the value fell by 9 per cent, owing to Ceylon tea valued at 6 annas per lb having increased from 433,000 lb to 1,611,000 lb, while China tea valued at 11¼ annas per lb decreased from 2·3 millions to 1·3 million lb. The imports of China green tea were reduced from 1¾ million lb to a little over ¼ million lb. The re-exports during the year were 927,000 lb by sea and 470,000 lb by land, making a total of 1,397,000 lb, of which 44 per cent was black tea, and leaving 2,337,000 lb for consumption in India. This calculation cannot, however, be implicitly relied on, sin e in respect of the exports by land it is not improbable that foreign tea, especially Ceylon tea, is sometimes classed as Indian tea, and *vice versâ*.

## METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS

*Hardware and Cutlery—*

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | ₹ | ₹ |
| Cutlery . . . . | 12,67,904 | 12,55,499 | 14,95,436 |
| Agricultural implements . | 7,73,926 | 7,38,185 | 7,85,577 |
| Other implements and tools | 10,86,191 | 11,16,793 | 11,33,090 |
| Enamelled iron ware . | 8,14,373 | 18,13,211 | 17,00,785 |
| Sewing machines . . | 7,03,413 | 10,08,458 | 10,06,625 |
| Unspecified hardware . | 1,53,45,871 | 1,73,46,157 | 1,78,38,099 |
| TOTAL . | 1,99,91,678 | 2,32,78,303 | 2,39,59,612 |

There was an improvement of nearly 3 per cent, and during the last ten years the advance has been 87 per cent. Apportioning their shares of the total to the countries from which the goods were imported, the United Kingdom takes 65·7 per cent, Germany and Belgium jointly (probably mostly German by origin) 18·5 per cent, and Austria-Hungary 7·6 per cent. The interest of Belgium and Germany is proportionately large in cutlery and in enamelled ware, but Austria-Hungary has nearly 62 per cent under the latter head against Germany's 31 per cent. The head "Unspecified hardware" is four-fifths of the total of hardware and includes a great variety of articles, but two additional heads for umbrella fittings and lampware (other than glassware) will appear in the accounts for 1905-06. The imports from the United States and Russia referred to in the Review of the Trade of 1903-04 represented the value of the tins in which case oil (kerosene) was imported into Bombay and Madras, and the misclassification dates from January 1903, when the tins were first assessed to import duty in addition to the duty on the oil which they contain. In the other provinces the value of the tins was recorded as imports of "Wrought iron—other kinds". The classification has now been corrected by showing the value of the tins and the oil contained in them under the one head "kerosene in cases".

The imports of *Metals* amounted to 505,869 tons, value 934¾ lakhs, compared with 496,623 tons, value 929½ lakhs, imported in 1903-04. The advance is small but the expansion had previously been very rapid and the trade has increased by 45·3 per cent in value in the last five years. About 22·5 per cent of the total value belongs to copper and 65·8 per cent to iron and steel. The growth of the iron trade is an indication of industrial development in certain directions, but, on the other hand, it emphasises the want of an iron manufacturing industry in India, of which the pioneer and at present the sole representative in the field is the Bengal Iron and Steel Company with a capital of £250,000, working at Barakar.

*Copper.*—After five years of steady progress the imports of copper have fallen by 1·3 per cent in quantity and 2·7 per cent in value. The decrease is wholly in unwrought copper, of which 70,441 cwt, value 36¾ lakhs, was imported, compared with 106,024 cwt, value 52⅘ lakhs, in 1903-04. A strange effect of the fluctuation in prices is that the average value of unwrought copper was higher than of wrought copper, the average price per cwt being R52-2-9 for the former and R48-13-9 for the latter. Owing to the rise of prices in Europe caused by large demands for America and China, imports of both unwrought and wrought copper were greatly restricted during the last quarter of the year. The sensitiveness of the Indian demand to price changes is always noticeable, for

besides its increasing use for industrial purposes copper as the material for household utensils is an article of great importance in the domestic economy of the people, and their ability to satisfy their requirements is regulated first by their material prosperity, which is principally a question of good or bad crops, and secondly by the commodity being cheap or dear. The fluctuations dependent on these causes are shown in the figures of the trade for the last ten years:

| | | Price per cwt | | | | | Price per cwt | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | ₹ | *a.* | *p.* | | Cwt | ₹ | *a.* | *p.* |
| 1895-96 | 471,824 | 44 | 4 | 9 | 1900-01 | 159,971 | 57 | 5 | 4 |
| 1896-97 | 240,648 | 44 | 10 | 3 | 1901-02 | 193,822 | 55 | 12 | 0 |
| 1897-98 | 322,348 | 44 | 1 | 4 | 1902-03 | 395,850 | 49 | 9 | 2 |
| 1898-99 | 251,301 | 44 | 9 | 11 | 1903-04 | 433,091 | 50 | 1 | 3 |
| 1899-1900 | 90,846 | 58 | 4 | 0 | 1904-05 | 427,233 | 49 | 5 | 9 |

*Iron and Steel.*—The importations of iron and steel during the last five years have been in tons:

| | Iron | Steel | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 | 169,992 | 92,586 | 262,578 |
| 1901-02 | 180,604 | 158,468 | 339,072 |
| 1902-03 | 196,292 | 171,007 | 367,299 |
| 1903-04 | 232,570 | 226,335 | 458,905 |
| 1904-05 | 257,580 | 211,581 | 469,161 |

The trade of 1904-05 shows but a slight advance compared with the marked progress of the four preceding years, and in the case of steel, of which the imports had previously grown most rapidly, there is a set-back of 10·7 per cent in value. The distinction drawn in the statistical returns between common bars, plates, and sheets of iron and steel, respectively, is not, however, wholly trustworthy, and until January 1905 there was a motive for misdeclaration in the fact that previously steel was mostly assessed to duty *ad valorem* and iron on fixed tariff valuations. Prices were on the whole lower than in 1903-04, but the average value for iron was 2 per cent higher, mainly owing to the large increase of galvanised sheets and plates, while bigger imports of cheap basic bars and a falling off in steel for structural purposes reduced the average for steel by 4 per cent. Shipments from the United Kingdom, which are mostly of British origin, account for 65·8 per cent of the total quantity and 65 per cent of the value of iron and steel. Germany takes the second place in reality, though in appearance this belongs to Belgium owing to shipments of German iron from Belgian ports. Data are wanting for an exact division according to the countries of origin, but the following statement indicates approximately how much of the main descriptions of iron and steel imported were British and German or Belgian, respectively (in tons):

| | United Kingdom | | | Germany and Belgium | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total |
| Bars | 8,693 | 7,779 | 16,472 | 23,376 | 48,034 | 71,410 |
| Sheets and plates | 1,043 | 28,235 | 29,278 | 2,633 | 16,273 | 18,906 |
| „ „ galvanised | 97,202 | ... | 97,202 | 449 | ... | 449 |
| „ „ tinned | 18,751 | ... | 18,751 | 98 | ... | 98 |
| Hoop | 1,754 | 12,075 | 13,829 | 1,053 | 2,785 | 3,838 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod | 843 | ... | 843 | 5,584 | ... | 5,584 |
| Angle, channel, and spring | ... | 10,385 | 10,385 | ... | 4,548 | 4,548 |
| Beams, pillars, girders, and bridgework | 5,809 | 13,742 | 19,551 | 950 | 15,736 | 16,686 |
| Pipes and tubes | 27,031 | ... | 27,031 | 364 | ... | 364 |
| Nails, screws, rivets and washers | 3,645 | ... | 3,645 | 5,636 | ... | 5,636 |
| Other sorts | 35,231 | 10,805 | 46,036 | 3,903 | 31,109 | 35,012 |
| Total | 200,002 | 83,021 | 283,023 | 44,046 | 118,485 | 162,531 |

The competition with British manufactures has been chiefly in the common and cheap descriptions, namely, angle, bar, plain sheets, nails, screws, and rivets. Imports of galvanised sheets have increased in quantity by 57·1 per cent, that is, from 1,243,188 cwt to 1,953,029 cwt, valued at 158·3 lakhs. The development of the bulk oil trade accounts for an increase of 26·4 per cent in tinned plates, of which the value was nearly 38·3 lakhs. The imports of pipes and tubes, valued at 46·2 lakhs, were considerably less than the large imports of 1903-04, valued at 57·8 lakhs, but as in that year Burma took the largest share for its petroleum pipe lines.

Importations of *lead* were practically the same as in the previous year, the value being 18·4 lakhs, 12·9 lakhs of this being the value of sheets for lining tea chests imported from the United Kingdom.

Of *tin*, which comes almost wholly from the Straits Settlements, the quantity imported, valued at 39$\frac{1}{5}$ lakhs, was nearly 3 per cent smaller but the price 3 per cent higher than in 1903-04, which was a year of unusually large imports. The imports of *zinc* were 17 per cent less than in the previous year, but the value of 14$\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs shows only half this deficiency owing to the continuous advance in price.

The value of *Machinery and Millwork* reached the unprecedented total of 402$\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, this being 20 per cent greater than in 1903-04, which also was 19$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in advance of the previous year, and it is nearly 15 per cent above the previous record of 351 lakhs in 1896-97. The share of Bengal, whose former record was 182$\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1896-97, amounted to 195$\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, compared with 141$\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs in 1903-04, and this rise of 38·2 per cent is wholly due to the increase of jute mill machinery from 50$\frac{1}{2}$ to 94$\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. The value of Bombay imports fell from 126$\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs to 121 lakhs, which, though much below the maximum of 160$\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs in 1898-99, is still well above the average. The share of the other provinces was 85$\frac{4}{5}$ lakhs, compared with 66$\frac{4}{5}$ lakhs in 1903-04, equal to a rise of 29 per cent. New sub-heads have been introduced from April 1905 to distinguish textile, electrical, and mining machinery from other descriptions.

*Railway Material*, which includes rolling stock as well as materials for construction, is represented by imports of great magnitude, but the practice of eliminating from the accounts of private trade, by classifying as Government stores, all material for railways owned by the State, including those leased to and worked by Companies, obscures this fact; and for the same reason the purchase from time to time of private lines by the State may give the misleading impression that the imports have declined. To get a true view of the trade the imports for both State and private lines must be combined, and this total for 1904-05 gives a value of 561·5 lakhs, compared with 563·7 lakhs in 1903-04, which was 5 per cent higher than the previous record of 536 lakhs in 1902-03. The value for private lines was 141 lakhs and for State lines 420$\frac{3}{5}$ lakhs, the respective values for 1903-04 being 140$\frac{1}{5}$ lakhs and 423$\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs.

## Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, Narcotics, Dyeing and Tanning Materials

The value of *Chemicals* rose from 59 lakhs in 1903-04 to 61$\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs in 1904-05. The principal among the specified descriptions is "Chemicals for paper making," of which the value rose from 6$\frac{3}{5}$ lakhs to 7$\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. More than two-thirds of the imports are described as "other sorts" with a value of 43$\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs.

Several new descriptions such as calcium carbide, chemical manures, desinfectants, etc., will, however, be shown from the current year.

*Drugs and Medicines* were imported to the value of 70¾ lakhs, compared with 68 lakhs in the previous year. Imports of camphor which comes almost entirely from Japan and Formosa increased in quantity by 7 per cent and the value of 16 lakhs by 24 per cent, so that the average price per ℔ rose by 17 per cent. The quantity of quinine increased by 32 per cent, but as the price was 21 per cent lower, the value of 6$\frac{9}{10}$ lakhs was only 11 per cent higher than in the previous year. The value of "Other sorts" was 37 lakhs, of which "Proprietary and patent medicines," to be separately specified in 1905-06, form a principal item.

*Tobacco.*—The value of imported tobacco increased during the year by nearly 12 per cent to 55·6 lakhs. The descriptions "unmanufactured tobacco," "cigars," and "other sorts" (largely American pipe-tobacco) are relatively unimportant and do not show any progress, but the trade in cigarettes, which are the chief item, has increased by 106 per cent in the five years during which it has been registered. Compared with 1903-04, the value of imported cigarettes has increased nearly 19 per cent to 35 lakhs. The quantity of 2,518,659 ℔ would represent nearly 840 million cigarettes. The imports from the United Kingdom were valued at 23 lakhs, from Egypt at 3½ lakhs, from America at 5 lakhs, and jointly from the Treaty Ports of China, Japan, and the Straits Settlements at nearly 3 lakhs. The average value per ℔ from each of these sources was British R1-4-5, American R1-1-2, Egyptian R6-9-1, and Eastern 15 annas 9 pies, the value per 1,000 being roughly three times the value per ℔. The trade in the cheap descriptions may be expected to grow as the habit of cigarette-smoking is on the increase.

*Dyes.*—The trade in *aniline* and *alizarine* dyes was altogether exceptional in 1903-04 when the quantity was 12,182,600 ℔, value 82⅔ lakhs, and although the imports fell by 12 per cent in quantity to 10,705,077 ℔ and the value by 13½ per cent to 71½ lakhs, these results are still better than in any other year. Though most of the imports are shipped from ports in Belgium and Holland, the dyes are chiefly of German manufacture. Recently there have been large amalgamations in the German aniline trade in the direction of pooling profits in order to reduce competition and steady prices, which have been falling, for the average value was 3·8 per cent lower than in 1903-04, which also had an average 6·3 per cent lower than in the previous year. The alizarine trade is already controlled by a combination and the average value per ℔ was 1·9 per cent higher than in 1903-04, for imports of 5,875,708 ℔, valued at 30½ lakhs. More than four-fifths of the mineral dyes were imported into Bombay.

## Oils

*Mineral Oil.*—The trade in kerosene oil shows some interesting changes. The imports had fallen off during each of the two preceding years by 10 million gallons, and though the quantity received in 1904-05 increased by 4⅔ million gallons, or 6·4 per cent, the total value of the imports was nearly 8 lakhs or 2·6 per cent lower. Bulk oil imports increased by 20½ million gallons, one million of the gross increase being Russian oil and 20 millions the produce of Sumatra and Borneo, of which 11¾ million gallons were shipped from the distributing port of Singapore. Thus out of a total of 55 million gallons for bulk oil,

Russia provided 28¾ millions and the Dutch Indies 26¼ millions. The large receipts of bulk oil caused a drop in the imports of case oil of 15·8 million gallons. Russian oil fell by 18 millions to 11½ millions, while American oil increased by ¾ of a million to 7·4 millions. Case oil from the Dutch Indies and the Straits Settlements amounted to 950,000 gallons. The shifting of the sources of supply is caused by the rapid development of the indigenous oil industry. There was hardly any advance in the small Assam field which produced about 2½ million gallons of crude petroleum as in the previous year, but the crude oil output in Burma rose from 85½ to 115·9 million gallons or by 36 per cent. This would represent in all about 50 million gallons of kerosene, and the exports of illuminating oil from Burma during 1904-05 amounted to 48·6 million gallons, of which 1·8 millions went to the Straits Settlements and the remainder in coasting vessels to Bengal and the other Indian provinces. The Burma Oil Company, which monopolises the Burma oil trade, is rapidly expanding its business, and with the projected increase of £1,000,000 will have an authorised capital, including £500,000 debentures, of £3,000,000. Though inferior as an illuminant Burma oil is cheaper than American and Russian oil, but oils of like quality produced in the Dutch East Indies are also cheap, and as the producing interests have formed a coalition to work the Eastern markets they are able to compete vigorously with Burma oil, notwithstanding the advantage the latter obtains from the high duty on foreign petroleum imported for illuminating purposes. The effect of this competition on prices is apparent in their constant fluctuations. The average value per 10 gallons of oil in bulk was lower than in 1903-04 by 10 annas 8 pies for Dutch Indian oil, but the fall in Russian oil, whether in bulk or cases, and in American case oil is hardly appreciable.

The imports of other mineral oils, chiefly lubricating oil, were 7,441,000 gallons, a decrease of 1½ million gallons from the imports of the previous year, and Burma shipped to Indian ports 3¼ million gallons of these oils. Fuel oil, of which nearly a million gallons was imported into Bombay from Borneo, will be separately designated from this year.

The total value of all mineral oils was 327·9 lakhs, of which 293 lakhs was the value of kerosene.

## Raw Materials

*Coal.*—The development of the Indian coal fields has brought about a rapid diminution of the imports of coal, but the year 1904-05 showed a remarkable recovery of as much as 40 per cent in quantity and nearly 32 per cent in value. The depression in the British coal trade and the excessively low freights for Welsh coal to Bombay and Karáchi, which owing to the remunerative freights obtainable for the homeward journey fell as low as 6*s* a ton, account for the rise. The total of private imports was 252,400 tons, value 44½ lakhs, of which the United Kingdom supplied 177,129 tons, value 33⅐ lakhs. The imports from Japan which are increasing remarkably reached the considerable total of 55,443 tons, value 8⅖ lakhs. The remaining 20,000 tons came chiefly from Australia and African ports. Imports of British coal by the Government amounted to 22,812 tons, value ₹4,92,622. The production of Indian coal in 1904 was 8,212,000 tons, an advance of 773,620 tons or 10·4 per cent compared with the previous year.

*Silk.*—After two years of great depression the trade in silk shows a satisfactory recovery, the advance on the value in 1903-04 being 24 per cent.

The crops in Italy, Japan, and China were good, and in the earlier months of the year prices fell but they recoverd later, and the average value per lb was nearly 4 per cent higher than in the preceding year. Direct imports from China were 1,464,401 lb and from the Straits Settlements 340,129 lb, out of a total of 1,858,709 lb. The value of the imports was 73$\frac{2}{5}$ lakhs, of which Bombay took 58$\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs and Burma nearly 14 lakhs.

*Cotton.*—Of cotton 192,554 cwt were imported—a quantity ten and-a-half times greater than in the previous year—and the value rose from 5 lakhs to 63·8 lakhs. Excepting 1900-01 the year following the failure of the Indian crop, when 225,214 cwt valued at 70 lakhs were imported, and the previous year with imports valued at 46 lakhs, the average value of the imports during the last decade has been about 20 lakhs. The great fall in the price of cotton resulting from the gigantic American crop and the activity in the Indian cotton industry are the immediate causes of the growth of the imports, for 113,301 cwt of the total was received during the last quarter of the year. The quantity of long-stapled cotton, chiefly American shipped from the United Kingdom, was 20,300,000 lb, and the quantity of yarn of counts above 30 spun in the Indian mills during 1904-05 was 18,427,809 lb compared with 17,460,103 lb in 1903-04.

*Precious stones and pearls, unset.*—The imports fluctuate considerably, and the value of 87$\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs is 42 per cent less than in 1903-04, which was 33 per cent higher than the previous record. The decline is chiefly in jewels from the United Kingdom and France, while pearls from Muscat and the Persian Gulf to the registered value of 45 lakhs take the first place. The declared average value of imported pearls during the last five years has been about 51 lakhs, but they have been very much undervalued, and there are further unregistered imports by letter post of the estimated annual value of 10 lakhs. Although nearly the whole of the pearls is re-exported, the registered value averages only 2$\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, as the rest are sent by registered letter post and thus escape registration. The real value of the exports, including commission and other charges, is believed to be double the declared value of the imports or over 100 lakhs on the average.

*Timber.*—The trade is growing and the value of 58 lakhs is 37 per cent greater than in 1903-04. Two-thirds is teak from Siam which is taking the place of Burma teak.

## Manufactured Articles

*Cotton manufactures.*—The year 1904-05 saw a revolutionary change in the Lancashire cotton trade which supplies the Indian market. The long period of depression caused by the scarcity and high cost of the raw material came to an end with the certainty of an abundance of American cotton for the ensuing year. The revival began in June and in a few months machinery and work people were in full employment, contracts were entered into, exceeding in amount and length of time for delivery anything experienced for many years, and the trade was rejoicing in a spell of great prosperity. The restoration of confidence and the attenuation of stocks caused an eager demand from India, and as the contracts were made and imports on a large scale began before the great drop in the price of raw cotton in the latter part of the year, they were arranged on the basis of dear cotton and the average values for the year were therefore exceedingly high. The great margin thus latterly existing between the price of raw cotton and the price of manufactured goods must have brought great profits for the time being to the manufacturers.

*Cotton yarn.*—The imports during the last six years have been in millions of lb:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 | 42·6 | 1902-03 | 33·7 |
| 1900-01 | 34·8 | 1903-04 | 28·0 |
| 1901-02 | 38·3 | 1904-05 | 30·6 |

The British export trade in cotton yarns did not show the same advance as in piece-goods, and much of the increased production of the spindles was absorbed by the looms. There was a fair demand in India for 40's mule, and on the whole an advance, compared with the very small imports of the previous year, of 9 per cent in quantity and 16 per cent in value, for dear cotton, made prices on the average 7 per cent higher. Dyed and undyed yarn are about equally divided, and of the former about 2 million lb out of a total of 15 millions was of non-British origin, Austria-Hungary and Italy each being credited with about ¾ of a million lb. The gradual shrinking of the trade is due to the large production of the Indian mills, which compares as follows with imported yarn as to quantity and descriptions:

*Imported yarn*

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 25 | 3,955,882 | 4,380,483 | 2,524,081 |
| „ 26 to 40 | 23,115,551 | 16,588,042 | 19,995,875 |
| Above 40 | 4,244,846 | 4,822,593 | 5,041,582 |
| TOTAL | 31,316,279 | 25,791,118 | 27,561,538 |

*Indian yarn*

| | 1902-03* | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 25 | 539,606,593 | 536,856,691 | 531,444,743 |
| „ 26 to 40 | 35,413,172 | 40,960,069 | 45,658,619 |
| Above 40 | 674,495 | 942,315 | 1,277,913 |
| TOTAL | 575,694,260 | 578,759,075 | 578,381,275 |

Practically the whole of the exports of Indian yarn consists of numbers 25 and under, and the greater part of the imports of these low counts are re-imports from China of Indian yarn.

*Cotton fabrics.*—The recovery of the great trade in cotton fabrics from a period of depression, owing to reasons already stated, and the ample purchasing powers provided by years of agricultural prosperity, have caused an advance on the previous year of 23·2 per cent in the value of these goods, which represents 36·8 per cent of the value of all private importations of merchandise. Taking piece-goods the number of yards is greater than in any previous year, not excepting 1894-95 when there were very large importations on account of the expected 5 per cent import duty which was imposed in December 1894, and owing to high prices the value stands quite by itself, being 458 lakhs greater than the value in 1901-02 which makes the nearest approach to it. Compared with moderate trade of 1903-04 the quantity has increased by 255·6 million yards or 12·5 per cent and the value by 627 lakhs or 22·8 per cent. This signifies a rise in the average price per yard of about 3 pies. Separating the classes the average price of grey goods rose 12 per cent, of white goods 7·8 per cent, and of coloured goods 11·1 per cent. The course of the import trade in these classes

* Imperfect, the production of two mills outside British India being excluded

during the last sixteen years is stated in the figures appended in millions of yards:

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured, printed, or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1889-90 to 1893-94 | 1,223·47 | 368·62 | 374·16 | 62 |
| Average, 1894-95 to 1898-99 | 1,209·77 | 418·58 | 351·49 | 61 |
| Average, 1899-1900 to 1903-04 | 1,204·53 | 469·69 | 430·56 | 57 |
| 1904-05 | 1,210·16 | 584·3 | 493·92 | 53 |

The decreasing importance of grey goods both relatively and absolutely is manifest from this statement—a fact which is explained by the great preponderance of these goods in the rapidly increasing production of the Indian mills. It is also noticeable that while Bombay takes an equal or, as last year, a greater share of white and coloured goods compared with Bengal, it takes a comparatively small and diminishing share of grey goods, of which Bengal where there are no cotton weaving mills absorbs a very large share, 904,778,615 yards, in 1904-05. The hand-weaving industry is also by no means a negligible factor, for its production in cloth is probably double that of the Indian mills, and it is still the largest industry in the country next to agriculture, as the census of 1901 showed $2\frac{2}{3}$ million cotton hand-loom weavers, besides dependents numbering $2\frac{4}{5}$ millions. This ancient industry has suffered greatly from the introduction of machine-made goods and though still possessed of considerable vitality seems to be steadily decaying.

The principal descriptions of imported goods belonging to the three classes are shown in the following statement in millions of yards:

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *1. Shirtings:* | | | |
| Grey | 612·43 | 466·06 | 517·64 |
| White | 70·75 | 65·35 | 129·02 |
| Coloured | 64·89 | 65·19 | 63·19 |
| *2. Chadars, dhutis, sáris, and scarves:* | | | |
| Grey | 497·9 | 454·58 | 529·72 |
| White | 52·82 | 54·65 | 56·56 |
| Coloured | 55·77 | 67·12 | 64·58 |
| *3. Jaconets:* | | | |
| Grey | 85·85 | 93·34 | 85·58 |
| White | 15·72 | 18 | 30·7 |
| Coloured | 5·04 | 5·02 | 4·36 |
| *4. Mulls:* | | | |
| Grey | 18 | 25·16 | 27·46 |
| White | 81·33 | 102·11 | 134·89 |
| Coloured | 1·67 | 1·96 | 3·13 |
| *5. Drills, jeans, sheetings:* | | | |
| Grey | 24·97 | 20·87 | 18·77 |
| White (drills and jeans) | 3·62 | 4·18 | 7·79 |
| Coloured (drills) | 5·61 | 5·63 | 5·09 |
| *6. Unspecified descriptions:* | | | |
| Grey | ·41 | ·33 | ·55 |
| White | 12·12 | 17·93 | 22· |
| Coloured | 66·93 | 93·54 | 105·55 |

Among these shirtings, dhutis, and mulls show the principal advance. The further descriptions which are imported in considerable quantities and belong to either one or two of the three classes are stated below in millions of yards:

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Grey:* | | | |
| Madapollams | 26·64 | 12·1 | 17·94 |
| T-cloths and domestics | 17·14 | 12·29 | 12 |
| Printers | ·33 | ·38 | ·49 |
| *White:* | | | |
| Nainsooks | 135·17 | 181·85 | 177·23 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins, lawns | 10·82 | 14·15 | 16·5 |
| Checks, spots, stripes | 5·95 | 6·49 | 7·56 |
| Long cloths | 1·67 | 1·61 | 2·05 |
| *Coloured:* | | | |
| Prints and chintz | 156·1 | 171·28 | 181·55 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins | 77·64 | 71·52 | 66·46 |

The principal improvement is in madapollams and prints and the largest decline in nainsooks.

The production of the Indian mills which consists chiefly of unbleached shirtings, dhutis, T-cloths, domestics, and chadars increased by 20·7 million pounds or 15 per cent. The yardage which is stated only for plain goods that is bleached or unbleached but not coloured or figured, increased by 87·2 million yards, the total for this class being 547·7 million yards, and the weight thereof 130 million lb out of a total weight for all classes of woven goods of 158·7 million lb.

The extent to which cotton piece-goods are imported from the United Kingdom is indicated below (million yards):—

| | 1902-03 | | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | from United Kingdom | Total | from United Kingdom | Total | from United Kingdom |
| Unbleached goods | 1,283·68 | 1,273·06 | 1,085·11 | 1,077·22 | 1,210·16 | 1,205·19 |
| Bleached „ | 389·98 | 382·74 | 466·34 | 458·36 | 584·3 | 574·51 |
| Coloured „ | 433·66 | 415·46 | 481·27 | 461·68 | 493·92 | 471·53 |

The proportion of grey goods is 99·6 per cent and of bleached goods 98·3 per cent. For coloured goods the proportion is only 95·5 per cent.

Besides these three great classes, there is a comparatively small importation of other fabrics, and the trade in these increased as in the previous year by 42 lakhs equal to 30 per cent. The principal descriptions and the figures of the trade are (₹, 000 omitted):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece | 13,39 | 26,29 | 25,00 |
| Hosiery | 32,13 | 50,19 | 67,45 |
| Sewing thread | 22,52 | 21,99 | 22,78 |
| Other manufactures | 29,79 | 41,84 | 67,20 |

In handkerchiefs and shawls and sewing thread the United Kingdom has the large shares of 86 per cent and 90 per cent, respectively, but its share of the total of all these descriptions has fallen from 49·5 per cent in 1903-04 to 39·6 per cent last year. It retains only 6·7 per cent of the trade in hosiery which is imported principally from Japan, Italy, Germany, Austria, and Spain. The value of hosiery imported direct from Japan increased from 6 lakhs in 1903-04 to 12¾ lakhs in 1904-05, and imports from Hongkong and the Straits Settlements to the value of 4½ lakhs were probably also of Japanese make.

The aggregate value of the imports of cotton yarn and woven and other goods in the last five years has been (in millions of ₹):

| | Yarns | Woven and other goods | Total | Proportion to total imports of merchandise |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . . | 24·89 | 273·46 | 298·35 | 39 per cent |
| 1901-02 . . | 26·47 | 302·48 | 328·95 | 40 „ |
| 1902-03 . . | 22·97 | 281·49 | 304·46 | 39 „ |
| 1903-04 . . | 21·42 | 288·69 | 310·11 | 37 „ |
| 1904-05 . . | 24·88 | 355·59 | 380·47 | 39 „ |

*Silk goods*—The imports of silk manufactures have steadily advanced during the last three years, and the value of 211·8 lakhs is 15½ per cent greater than the previous record in 1903-04, though prices were lower. Piece-goods of pure silk are chiefly of Chinese and Japanese make, the latter predominating, and jointly (including re-exports from the Straits Settlements) they amounted to 16·3 million yards, value 102 lakhs, out of a total of 18·9 million yards, value 124¾ lakhs. The value of silk goods mixed with other materials, 43·8 lakhs, is 30 per cent greater than in 1903-04. There was also an advance of 25·8 per cent in "other sorts", of which the value rose by 51·7 per cent to 42·9 lakhs. This includes warp and yarn of Italian silk imported into Bombay for hand-weaving.

*Woollen goods*—As in the case of cotton and silk goods, the very large imports of woollen manufactures manifest the increased spending power of the public. The value of 307·6 lakhs is 42½ per cent greater than in 1903-04 which had a larger trade than in any previous year. Piece-goods increased in quantity by about 55 per cent to 23¾ millions yards and their value by 44 per cent to 194½ lakhs, so that the average price per yard was nearly 11 per cent lower than in the previous year. The value of piece-goods from the United Kingdom was 136·8 lakhs, a rise of 30 per cent, while imports from Germany increased by 109·6 per cent to 37½ lakhs. The value of shawls, 61 lakhs, was half as much again as in 1903-04 and 19·7 per cent above the previous record in 1900-01, but as the shawls were on the whole of finer quality and consequently 13 per cent dearer, the number imported, 2,481,000, was only 37 per cent larger. The trade is chiefly with Germany, as 1,820,000 shawls, value 46·9 lakhs, were imported direct from that country. The description "other sorts" which includes hosiery and yarn (both to be specified from the current year) has a value of 33·6 lakhs of which half came from the United Kingdom and all but a small fraction of the remainder from Germany and Austria.

*Other manufactured goods.*—Of the other articles enumerated in this class the following are the most important:

| | 1902-03 ₹ | 1903-04 ₹ | 1904-05 ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel, including boots and shoes . | 1,78,12,795 | 1,99,57,571 | 2,23,99,627 |
| Arms and ammunition . . . | 24,88,606 | 24,37,422 | 28,17,214 |
| Books and printed matter . . | 26,15,314 | 28,44,218 | 31,95,745 |
| Building materials . . . | 22,76,035 | 28,70,853 | 35,30,727 |
| Carriages and carts . . . | 37,32,585 | 43,53,866 | 55,02,106 |
| Clocks and watches . . . | 16,54,257 | 17,37,622 | 19,23,876 |
| Earthenware and porcelain . . | 27,42,648 | 28,00,038 | 29,31,813 |
| Glass and glassware . . . | 94,58,190 | 99,20,759 | 1,12,57,101 |
| Instruments and apparatus, scientific | 37,93,069 | 42,83,744 | 48,78,122 |
| Jewellery and gold and silver plate . | 33,58,890 | 15,03,988 | 17,48,150 |
| Leather and manufactures of leather . | 25,76,958 | 26,19,633 | 25,21,909 |
| Matches . . . . . | 46,76,376 | 50,61,057 | 48,95,283 |

| | 1902-03 ₹ | 1903-04 ₹ | 1904-05 ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 41,61,165 | 42,68,679 | 46,91,972 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 52,48,058 | 52,18,396 | 64,37,288 |
| Ships, parts of | 8,11,775 | 27,59,234 | 24,98,000 |
| Soap | 22,67,801 | 26,56,673 | 27,23,705 |
| Stationery | 33,51,470 | 37,08,048 | 36,77,860 |
| Tea chests | 13,13,658 | 13,83,473 | 20,86,531 |
| Toys and requisites for games | 22,70,055 | 27,29,113 | 27,73,710 |
| Umbrellas | 18,85,647 | 24,58,877 | 18,95,064 |

Of these twenty articles five, namely, leather manufactures, matches, parts of ships, stationery, and umbrellas, show smaller imports than in 1903-04, but the decline is small and the imports remain above the average except in the case of the last named. The smaller imports of complete umbrellas are, however, compensated by larger imports of ribs and fittings to be made up in India These which are now classed as hardware will in future be separately designated in the group of manufactured articles, for their value, which was 12½ lakhs in Bengal, is probably not far short of the value of complete umbrellas.

The smallest advance among the other articles is 4·7 per cent for earthenware, and the largest, nearly 51 per cent, for tea chests. The important and steadily progressive head "apparel" has increased by 12 per cent and the sub-head "boots and shoes" (value 34½ lakhs) by 23½ per cent. Three additional sub-heads have been added this year, and under one of these "imitation gold and silver thread," the registered imports into Madras were valued at nearly 16 lakhs, while there were considerable imports into Bombay and Karáchi. The increase of 26·4 per cent under "carriages" is due to larger imports of motor cars and motor cycles which will appear in future under a distinct sub-head. The large and expanding trade in glassware has risen in value by over 13 per cent. The value of imported paper is higher by 24 per cent. Printing paper increased by 36 per cent to 21⅔ lakhs, though the price per cwt was 5 per cent lower. The average price of "other kinds of paper," of which the imports increased in value from about 15 to 21 lakhs, seems to have fallen by 40 per cent, but this result is mainly due to the inclusion under this head from 1904-05 of old newspapers for packing, which were formerly included under various heads.

The principal imports are stated in the following list with the value of the trade in each for the last two years (in thousands of rupees) :

| | | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Cotton manufactures: | | | | |
| Grey piece goods | 1326,75 | | 1638,52 | |
| White „ | 620,67 | | 826,29 | |
| Coloured „ | 799,12 | 3101,06 | 908,68 | 3804,68 |
| Yarn | 214,21 | | 248,76 | |
| Other sorts | 140,31 | | 182,43 | |
| 2. Sugar | | 593,58 | | 690,27 |
| 3. Iron and steel | | 606,84 | | 615,42 |
| 4. Machinery and mill work | | 335,26 | | 402,72 |
| 5. Mineral oil | | 338,27 | | 327,94 |
| 6. Woollen manufactures | | 215,94 | | 307,64 |
| 7. Hardware and cutlery | | 232,78 | | 239,60 |
| 8. Apparel | | 199,58 | | 224,00 |
| 9. Provisions | | 202,73 | | 216,58 |
| 10. Silk manufactures | | 183,35 | | 211,81 |
| 11. Copper | | 216,88 | | 210,90 |
| 12. Railway material | | 140,20 | | 140,97 |
| 13. Glass and glassware | | 99,21 | | 112,57 |

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|
| 14. Spices | 82,20 | 103,24 |
| 15. Spirits | 99,15 | 100,59 |
| 16. Precious stones and pearls | 152,15 | 87,76 |
| 17. Instruments and apparatus | 66,74 | 74,40 |
| 18. Silk, raw | 59,29 | 73,41 |
| 19. Aniline and alizarine dyes | 82,67 | 71,45 |
| 20. Salt | 63,69 | 71,13 |
| 21. Drugs and medicines | 68,12 | 70,74 |
| 22. Paper and pasteboard | 52,18 | 64,37 |
| 23. Cotton | 5,03 | 63,85 |
| 24. Chemicals | 59,02 | 61,32 |
| 25. Beer | 55,91 | 60,42 |
| 26. Timber | 42,47 | 58,14 |
| 27. Tobacco | 49,69 | 55,63 |
| 28. Horses | 52,49 | 55,48 |
| 29. Carriages and carts | 43,54 | 55,02 |
| 30. Matches | 50,61 | 48,96 |
| 31. Paints and colours and painters' materials | 42,69 | 46,92 |
| 32. Coal | 33,78 | 44,46 |
| 33. Stationery, excluding paper | 37,08 | 36,78 |

Over 68 per cent of the trade consist of cottons, metals, metalware, machinery, railway material, sugar, and petroleum.

*General distribution of the import trade.*—Imports are credited in the accounts of trade to the countries containing the ports from which the goods were shipped direct to India. In the case of goods transhipped, this means the port at which they were transhipped and placed on board the vessel in which they arrive, unless a through bill of lading was granted at the port of first embarkation when that port, and not the place of transhipment, is, as a rule, taken to be the port of direct shipment to India. Arranged on this basis the value of the imports was distributed in the following proportions amongst the principal countries trading with India:

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. United Kingdom | 63·8 | 64·5 | 66·3 | 64·9 | 65·2 |
| 2. Austria-Hungary | 4·1 | 4·8 | 3·2 | 2·6 | 4·1 |
| 3. Germany | 3·4 | 3·7 | 2·7 | 3·4 | 3·9 |
| 4. Belgium | 3·2 | 3·7 | 3·9 | 3·9 | 3·6 |
| 5. Straits Settlements | 3 | 2·9 | 2·9 | 2·9 | 3·2 |
| 6. Java | 0·3 | 0·5 | 0·7 | 1·4 | 2·1 |
| 7. Mauritius | 3·2 | 2·4 | 2·5 | 3·1 | 2·1 |
| 8. China | 3·3 | 2·2 | 2·8 | 2·3 | 2 |
| 9. France | 1·4 | 1·7 | 1·8 | 1·9 | 1·9 |
| 10. Russia | 3·7 | 3·9 | 3·4 | 2·9 | 1·7 |
| 11. Japan | 1·1 | ·87 | 1 | 1·5 | 1·2 |
| 12. United States | 1·6 | 1·4 | 1·5 | 1·5 | 1·1 |

This distribution refers to what is classed as private trade and omits to take into account the large imports of Government stores, valued at 773 lakhs in 1904-05, of which 94 per cent was credited to the United Kingdom. With quite unimportant exceptions, such as stores returned from Aden and Somali ports, these imported stores represent commercial transactions between India and the supplying countries. Including these stores in the trade of the United Kingdom, which is the only country appreciably affected, its share of the total imports of merchandise would be, per cent:

| 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 65·6 | 67 | 68·9 | 67·3 | 67·4 |

The system of registering imports according to the place of shipment on the principles stated above has the solid advantage of resting on a basis of facts which can be accurately checked. On the other hand it often fails to represent the true commercial exchanges, for certain countries, owing to their geographical position, send much of their produce in transit by inland routes through adjacent countries to be shipped from the ports of those countries; while other countries contain ports doing a large transhipment trade. Thus certain regions of central Europe, mostly belonging to the German Empire, export much of their produce through ports in Belgium and Holland, so that nearly half of the imports of German origin are credited in the Indian accounts to the countries through which they pass in transit. Switzerland, having no seaports, does not appear at all, American and Continental exports are credited to the United Kingdom, Italian exports to Austria, and so on. Transhipments at Singapore and Hongkong also obscure the real course of trade with the Far East and countries in the Pacific. Alternative systems likewise have their defects, and a suggested improvement which is being considered is to supplement the present system by registration of the country of consignment, that is, the country from which the goods have come in unbroken transit by land and sea or by sea only.

Taking the recorded percentages, the most noticeable changes of the year are the rise of Austria-Hungary from the seventh to the second place owing to the revival of the trade in beet-sugar. The smaller exports of sugar from Mauritius have deposed it from the fourth to the seventh place, while the extraordinary development of the imports of sugar from Java have suddenly brought that country from obscurity into the sixth place. Russia has sunk from the fifth to the tenth place owing to the great falling off in the imports of Russian kerosene oil.

## Exports of Imported Goods

The re-export trade reached its highest value in 1894-95, with 505¾ lakhs, after which as direct communications developed between other countries and ports in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean there was an almost unbroken decline to 293½ lakhs in 1902-03. The next year there was a recovery of 13·3 per cent followed by a small advance of 1·4 per cent in 1904-05. The fluctuations during the last ten years are shown in the figures appended, giving the value in rupees:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1895-96 | 4,71,75,159 | 1900-01 | 3,20,85,314 |
| 1896-97 | 4,03,36,372 | 1901-02 | 3,25,98,163 |
| 1897-98 | 3,75,11,720 | 1902-03 | 2,93,56,132 |
| 1898-99 | 3,37,11,965 | 1903-04 | 3,32,55,087 |
| 1899-1900 | 3,29,24,912 | 1904-05 | 3,37,25,945 |

The chief ports of Western India, Bombay and Karáchi, absorbed 88 per cent of the total trade, the share of Bombay alone being 76 per cent. According to destinations the United Kingdom takes 20·4 per cent, Persia 16·5 per cent, Arabia 13·5 per cent, China 8·1 per cent, the Straits 7 per cent, British East Africa 5·1 per cent, Ceylon 4·6 per cent, and Aden 4·2 per cent. The chief export to the United Kingdom is raw wool, the value of 25½ lakhs for 5⅛ million lb being 10·7 per cent higher than in the previous year owing to the price having risen. Cotton manufactures are, however, by far the largest item in the general trade, accounting for 37 per cent of the total. Cotton yarn valued at 9·12 lakhs, of which Persia took 7·1 lakhs, increased by 21 per cent,

but notwithstanding higher prices and a rise of 13 per cent in bleached cotton, the value of piece goods as a whole fell from 123·4 to 119·7 lakhs, and of coloured goods from 93⅓ to 87¾ lakhs, as the principal importing countries, namely, Persia, Arabia, East Africa, the Straits Settlements, and Aden, all purchased smaller quantities. The value of apparel also fell from about 17 to 15 lakhs, of metals from 23 to 14¾ lakhs, and of provisions from 20 to 19 lakhs, while the value rose of oils from 6⅕ to 10⅔ lakhs and of refined sugar from 4⅕ to 9⅔ lakhs. Tea has lost its former importance as an article of re-export since the Central Asian markets have ceased to be served through the Persian Gulf, and the total was only 927,000 lb, value 6⅓ lakhs, compared with 890,000 lb, value 6½ lakhs, in 1903-04. Persia took about half a million lb as in the previous year, and it is noticeable that nearly 150,000 lb went to Russia, while exports of green tea increased by 280,000 lb.

## Exports of Indian Merchandise

The value of exported merchandise was 449 lakhs, or 3 per cent, greater than in 1903-04. Although this is the smallest advance of the last four years, it is still remarkable, for it followed an unprecedented increase of 19 per cent in 1903-04, and rapid development in the two preceding years, so that the increase in four years is 48 per cent. The year 1900-01 was, however, the last of ten years of practical stagnation in the export trade, so that the advance in fourteen years is less than 49 per cent. Since 1880-81, that is, during 25 years, exports have increased in value by 114 per cent. The figures appended give the progress in the annual average values of five quinquennial periods (₹):

| | |
|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 | 79,44,52,789 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 | 88,75,15,074 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 | 101,43,43,860 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 103,64,92,715 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 | 131,00,13,613 |

The fluctuations from year to year are set forth in the appended list of the principal articles in the trade and their values (₹):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rice | 13,91,95,678 | 18,89,52,506 | 19,08,49,230 | 19,60,66,732 |
| Wheat | 3,62,72,080 | 4,98,08,201 | 11,61,88,389 | 18,59,82,302 |
| Cotton, raw | 14,42,60,933 | 14,75,71,981 | 24,37,61,464 | 17,43,46,872 |
| Seeds | 16,77,92,684 | 14,88,25,711 | 14,51,58,299 | 14,41,08,555 |
| Jute, raw | 11,79,72,723 | 11,12,64,752 | 11,71,81,222 | 11,96,56,462 |
| Cotton yarn and cloth | 10,86,53,008 | 10,00,76,891 | 10,47,23,079 | 11,64,31,908 |
| Opium | 8,52,29,854 | 8,01,69,354 | 10,47,01,638 | 10,62,34,442 |
| Jute manufactures | 8,71,14,174 | 9,01,98,987 | 9,46,91,969 | 9,93,88,676 |
| Hides and skins | 8,23,96,808 | 8,43,51,434 | 8,93,50,894 | 9,90,52,758 |
| Tea | 8,14,94,893 | 7,36,16,421 | 8,55,79,327 | 8,46,54,867 |
| Lac | 96,05,279 | 1,85,07,872 | 2,72,38,970 | 3,07,64,121 |
| Pulse, millets, and cereals | 74,16,667 | 1,60,37,173 | 1,88,90,652 | 2,90,25,363 |
| Wool, raw | 79,38,259 | 1,16,53,204 | 1,37,73,957 | 1,89,16,747 |
| Coffee | 1,25,02,200 | 1,32,12,628 | 1,36,73,773 | 1,66,09,757 |
| Oils | 69,17,507 | 85,76,793 | 1,03,09,017 | 1,00,30,678 |
| Indigo | 1,85,22,554 | 1,20,56,819 | 1,07,62,026 | 83,46,073 |
| Wood and timber | 89,15,416 | 87,51,055 | 1,12,19,810 | 78,41,703 |
| Spices | 74,08,269 | 63,62,103 | 92,80,760 | 69,40,103 |
| Provisions | 60,96,611 | 67,88,510 | 61,45,524 | 65,72,001 |
| Silk, raw | 66,34,209 | 65,48,153 | 63,42,468 | 49,69,975 |

Since the long cycle of lean years, which marked the close of the last century, unbroken agricultural prosperity, which is essential to the well-being

of the exported trade, has been generally experienced, for the distress caused by the partial failure of the last monsoon in Gujerat and parts of the Madras Presidency was of only local importance, and the damage to the spring crops by frost in certain districts of Northern India will influence the trade of the present year. The most notable feature of the year is the extraordinary development of the grain trade, which increased in volume by 32 per cent and in value by 851 lakhs, of which wheat accounts for 698 lakhs. The total of "grain and pulse" reached the unprecedented value of 4,111 lakhs, this being 26·7 per cent of the total value of the export trade. The volume of the trade in seeds was also unrivalled, the increase being 9 per cent, but owing to very low prices the value declined. There was also notable progress in the value of exports of coffee, raw hides and skins (principally the latter), raw jute (owing to the rise in price), raw wool, cotton manufactures, jute manufactures, and lac. In contrast to the extraordinary development of the grain trade, stands out the collapse of the raw cotton trade from the abnormal position it attained in 1903-04, for without any fall in price the exports decreased by 28·5 per cent, equal in value to 694 lakhs. Other principal articles showing a considerable fall in value are spices, indigo, raw silk, teak, and dressed skins. Prices were on the whole higher than in 1903-04, and a rise of 59 lakhs or 13 per cent of the total increase of 449 lakhs was due to this cause. The rise was attributable principally to the higher prices of cotton yarn, raw jute, manufactures of jute, hides, and raw wool, which were partially compensated by lower prices of grain and pulse, seeds, indigo, and dressed skins.

The value of the trade in each of the four principal classes under which articles are grouped in the accounts was in ₹:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Articles of food and drink . | 29,31,40,145 | 35,89,88,056 | 44,71,02,673 | 53,05,55,456 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials . . | 11,86,12,460 | 10,71,44,675 | 13,00,71,626 | 12,78,92,414 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . . | 53,84,01,450 | 52,08,49,462 | 62,67,38,477 | 57,39,65,167 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . | 24,98,37,620 | 25,81,69,367 | 27,64,42,958 | 29,32,16,631 |

Opium and indigo are the principal articles to which variations in the second class are attributable, and the decrease last year was due to the failing trade in the latter. The reduced exports of raw cotton more than account for the fall in the third class. In the other two classes progress has been continuous during the last four years.

## Articles of Food and Drink

*Coffee.*—More than half the coffee-producing area is situated in Mysore and the remainder in Coorg, Madras, and Travancore. The official statistics indicate a continuous decrease of the area under cultivation since 1898 and great variations in the yield, but the reports from which they are prepared are known to be incomplete and inaccurate, and the indications are refuted by the following statement of the exports which account for practically the whole of the production and show a steady rise during the last five years:

| | Cwt | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . . . . . | 246,431 | 1,22,84,498 |
| 1901-02 . . . . . | 255,042 | 1,25,02,200 |
| 1902-03 . . . . . | 269,165 | 1,32,12,628 |
| 1903-04 . . . . . | 291,254 | 1,36,73,773 |
| 1904-05 . . . . . | 329,647 | 1,66,09,757 |

The volume of the exports in 1904-05 is the largest for fifteen years, but owing to the great drop in prices in recent years it is only necessary to go back six years to obtain a higher value. Compared with the exports of 1903-04, the rise in value is 21½ per cent, and in the average price per cwt 8·3 per cent. But for the large stocks existing prices should have shown a greater rise, for the Brazilian crop of 1903-04 produced only 10,407,000 against 12,324,000 bags in 1902-03 and 15,496,000 bags in 1901-02. The crop of 1904-05 is reported to be 10 million bags or less as the recent heavy yields are reported to have weakened the trees and scanty crops are probable during a few seasons. Nearly 57 per cent of last year's exports was directed to the United Kingdom and a little more than half that quantity to France.

*Rice.*—The exports during the last five years are stated below in cwt (000 omitted):

| | *From Burma* | *From Bengal* | *From other Provinces* | *Total* | *Value* ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . | 21,394 | 8,106 | 1,566 | 31,066 | 13,14,22,857 |
| 1901-02 . | 24,190 | 6,277 | 3,275 | 33,742 | 13,84,69,897 |
| 1902-03 . | 36,792 | 6,623 | 3,618 | 47,033 | 18,78,73,780 |
| 1903-04 . | 33,346 | 6,936 | 4,159 | 44,441 | 18,95,42,429 |
| 1904-05 . | 37,475 | 8,055 | 3,305 | 48,835 | 19,45,85,005 |

Both in regard to quantity and value the trade is the largest known, though the average price for the year was 7 per cent lower than in 1903-04. The bulk of the exports is always from Burma, but as that province is the granary of India from which large supplies are drawn in times of famine or scarcity, the volume of its foreign exports is largely dependent on the state of the Indian crops. The principal rice-growing regions of Burma are immune from drought and more than four-fifths of its crop is exported. The official year cuts into two rice seasons, that of 1903-04 giving a very large crop in Burma, though somewhat short of what was expected, and the estimate of 1904-05 for that province was about 6 per cent less than in the previous year. The coasting exports from Burma amounted to 301,000 tons, mainly directed to Bombay and Madras, this being about 106,000 tons more than in 1903-04. Except as a constituent of cargo rice to prevent its heating, unhusked rice or paddy of which the exports were 613,075 cwt, value 14·7 lakhs, goes only to Ceylon. A large portion, however, of the exports to Europe consists of uncleaned rice, and the principal destinations west of Suez of all qualities of rice were the United Kingdom 218,913 tons, value 164 lakhs; Germany 277,297 tons, value 205 lakhs; Austria-Hungary 198,232 tons, value 135 lakhs; and Holland 169,705 tons, value 119 lakhs. Trade with ports in the Levant 44,015 tons, value 33 lakhs, has come into prominence only in the last two years, since exports for orders *vid* Egypt have been adjusted against the countries of final destination. The direct trade with the West Indies is small, but there is a large indirect trade with Cuba, which imports on the average about 75,000 tons of Indian rice, all but a very small fraction thereof being re-exported from the United Kingdom and Germany. The direct trade with Brazil, which is chiefly in the best quality of milled rice, has increased from 34,913 tons to 51,969 tons, value 41 lakhs, notwithstanding the increase of the import duty and certain surtaxes by 50 per cent from the 1st January 1904 for the purpose of protecting and developing the native production. Some abatement in respect of the surtaxes was, however, contemplated and may have been granted.

In the Eastern section of the trade nothing but ordinary fluctuations are noticeable in regard to Arabia, Africa, and Mauritius. There is, however, a

remarkable development in the exports to Japan to the unprecedented total of 463,862 tons, value 352 lakhs, being 19 per cent of the whole quantity exported from India and 53 per cent of the total imports of rice into Japan in 1904, which as in the previous year were exceptionally heavy. The increase in quantity over the exports to Japan in 1903-04, which were far above any other year, is 32 per cent, and as the last two rice harvests in that country have been large, the latter indeed being one of unprecedented abundance, 21 per cent above the average, it seems likely that the demand for Indian rice, which was fitful before 1902-03, will become constant. Next to Japan comes Ceylon with 308,815 tons, or 6·5 per cent more than in 1903-04, value 287 lakhs. The exports to the Straits Settlements are largely for re-distribution and the quantity shows a fall from the previous year of 26 per cent to 270,725 tons, value 207 lakhs. The exports of rice from both Bangkok and Saigon were much larger in 1904 than in 1903, the former increasing by 44·4 per cent to 845,217 tons and the latter by 45·6 per cent to 690,506 tons. Bangkok exported chiefly to Hongkong, Singapore, and Europe; and Saigon to Europe, the Philippines, China, Japan, and Java.

*Wheat.*—The remarkable changes in the wheat trade are set forth in the figures appended giving the exports during the last ten years (000 omitted):

| | From Bengal | From Bombay | From Sind | Total exports | Total value |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | cwt | cwt | cwt | cwt | ₹ |
| 1895-96 . . | 1,012 | 2,798 | 6,193 | 10,003 | 3,91,39 |
| 1896-97 . . | 74 | 1,160 | 676 | 1,911 | 83,64 |
| 1897-98 . . | 76 | 378 | 1,939 | 2,393 | 1,34,11 |
| 1898-99 . . | 3,458 | 6,484 | 9,578 | 19,520 | 9,71,97 |
| 1899-1900 . . | 2,385 | 2,310 | 5,009 | 9,704 | 3,90,95 |
| 1900-01 . . | 24 | 24 | 2 | 50 | 3,01 |
| 1901-02 . . | 65 | 83 | 7,174 | 7,322 | 3,25,59 |
| 1902-03 . . | 1,053 | 391 | 8,848 | 10,292 | 4,51,54 |
| 1903-04 . . | 4,833 | 3,691 | 17,385 | 25,911 | 11,08,90 |
| 1904-05 . . | 8,647 | 5,965 | 28,381 | 43,000 | 17,90,61 |

The exports of the first year of this series were from the crop of 1894-95, which covered 28⅔ million acres, and this area was not reached again till 1903-04, for during the eight years from 1895-96 to 1902-03 the area was much restricted sinking to 20½ million acres in 1896-97 and to 18⅔ million acres in 1899-1900. In 1903-04 there was a sudden increase of 5 million acres and the same level has been maintained in 1904-05. During the eight years of restricted cultivation there were, however, three years giving a good yield of about 7 million tons, namely, 1897-98, 1898-99, and 1900-01. The year 1902-03 produced 7,971,450 tons, and this was exceeded by 1,670,000 tons in 1903-04 which was an abnormally productive year. The fact that a much larger proportion of the crop than ten years ago is now grown in Northern India, where there are large tracts of irrigated land and where heavier crops are reaped from unirrigated land than in the more southern regions, is also accountable for an improving yield. The exports in 1904-05 exceed those of 1903-04 by 854,459 tons and 682 lakhs, an increase of 66 per cent in quantity and 61·4 per cent in value. The previous record was 1,515,171 tons in 1891-92, which has now been exceeded by 42 per cent. In that year owing to short crops in Europe and speculation the price of wheat ran up to nearly 42*s* a quarter and an enormously profitable business was done in Indian wheat, but last year although the wheat production of the United Kingdom was the lowest recorded and the exports from America were the smallest known for thirty years, the average Gazette

price of wheat in 1904 was only 28*s* 4*d* compared with 26*s* 9*d* in 1903; for besides the abnormal surplus in India abundant supplies were available from Russia, Argentina, and Australasia. During 1904-05 India exported 1,446,438 tons or 67 per cent of the total to the United Kingdom, and in 1904 it took the first place among the countries from which British supplies of wheat are drawn, so that it has been written about as the "granary of the Empire." But for the last quarter of a century India has possessed in favourable years a large surplus of wheat available for export, and except that a larger yield through recourse to better lands will increase the normal surplus, there has been no change in its position. In the future, as in the past, unfavourable and disastrous seasons will recur and will severely restrict the exports either through a direct lack of supplies or through prices rising to a point which will leave no margin of profit to the shippers. In the present season much of the excellent crop has been blighted as it was coming to maturity by the unwonted circumstance of severe frosts, the expected yield being thus reduced by about one-fifth, and although the estimated yield of 7½ million tons together with existing reserves gives a large surplus, this year's export trade is not likely to reach the level of 1904-05.

Exports of wheat flour were 27 per cent larger than in 1903-04, amounting to 51,575 tons, value 69⅕ lakhs. More than four-fifths of the trade is from Bombay and was directed mainly to Arabia, Aden, Mauritius, Ceylon, and East Africa. For the first time considerable exports appear to the United Kingdom, namely, 52,523 cwt, value nearly 3¾ lakhs.

*Other food-grains.*—The favourable harvests of recent years have caused a great expansion in the exports of food-grains other than wheat and rice. The previous record of 1903-04 has now been exceeded by nearly 57 per cent, the total being 426,772 tons, value 290¼ lakhs. Arranged according to magnitude, pulse with 156,346 tons has increased by 44½ per cent; jawar and bajra with 126,327 tons by 23 per cent; gram with 38,865 tons by 113 per cent; barley with 18,827 tons by 233 per cent; and "other sorts" (which include maize) with 86,407 tons by 131 per cent.

*Fruits and vegetables.*—The principal item is copra, the exports of which from Madras decreased by 56 per cent, following an increase of 147 per cent in the previous year. The total value including fresh fruit and vegetables exported to Ceylon and the Straits was 31 lakhs (copra 18½ lakhs), compared with 54¼ lakhs in 1903-04 and 32 lakhs in 1902-03.

*Provisions and spices.*—Owing to a decrease of 30 per cent in pepper to the value 35½ lakhs, of 22·6 per cent in ginger to 19¼ lakhs, and of 11 per cent in chillies to 11⅓ lakhs, the exports of spices, valued at 69⅖ lakhs, were 25 per cent below the unprecedented exports of 1903-04. Provisions, however, rose in value by 7 per cent to 55¾ lakhs, the principal items being preserved or salted fish of various kinds, value 23 lakhs, (more than one-third exported as manure), and ghi (clarified butter), value 26⅔ lakhs.

*Tea.*—The exports in the last five years have been:

| | lb (*000 omitted*) | R |
|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . . | 109,305 | 9,55,09,301 |
| 1901-02 . . | 179,685 | 8,14,94,893 |
| 1902-03 . . | 181,423 | 7,36,16,421 |
| 1903-04 . . | 207,160 | 8,55,79,327 |
| 1904-05 . . | 211,887 | 8,46,54,867 |

The season of 1904-05 was a disappointing one to the Indian tea industry, which has again suffered from the burden of over-production, as evidenced by

the accumulation of stocks and a general fall of prices, so that exports larger by 2·3 per cent than in 1903-04 have given a cash return smaller by 1·1 per cent, the average fall in price thus being 3·4 per cent, equal to 2·6 pies per lb. The quantity of tea sold in Calcutta in 1904-05 was $63\frac{4}{5}$ million lb, and the average price realised for 669,495 chests sold by auction was 5 annas 4 pies, contrasted with 5 annas 10 pies in 1903-04. For 988,000 packages sold in London at auction from the 1st July 1904 to the end of February 1905, the average was $7d$, the corresponding averages for the two previous years being $7\frac{5}{8}d$ and $7\frac{1}{2}d$ per lb, respectively. Compared with the outturn of the previous season, the increase in quantity seems moderate, but it is still the largest crop produced and coincides with a record crop of Ceylon tea. It also succeeds a rapid advance in the previous year, as shown by an increase of the exports in that year by $25\frac{3}{4}$ million lb or 14·2 per cent. The extent to which consumption was arrested by the imposition in April 1904 of the additional duty of $2d$ per lb on tea imported into the United Kingdom is somewhat uncertain, as there were other causes operating in the same direction; but the unexpectedness of this fresh impost (which has been remitted from the 1st July 1905) on a heavily taxed industry caused a sudden run on cheap teas, and this had the two-fold effect of stimulating the production of common tea and increasing the imports of China tea. It has been asserted, and also denied, that quality has been sacrificed to quantity, and this statement is difficult of proof or disproof. On the one hand going back to the year 1901-02 and comparing it with the season of 1904-05, it appears that while the area under tea has not changed appreciably the production as represented by the exports (for the statistics of production are not accurate enough for exact comparison) has increased by nearly 18 per cent. Making a further comparison with the earlier year 1900-01, whose very large exports represent endeavours to recoup losses sustained through the fall in prices by pushing production to its utmost limits, the increase in exports has been 11 per cent, as against an addition to the planted area about 2,000 acres. On the other hand the heavy additions of some years back have been coming into full bearing and the last two seasons have been favourable to growth, though not to quality. The increase of production has, however, its limits, to whatever causes it may be due, and the rigid abstention from additions must soon strengthen the position of the producers.

The principal destinations to which exports have been declared during the last three years have been, (lb, 000's omitted):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . . | 152,895 | 170,186 | 167,691 |
| Canada . . . . . | 5,554 | 8,576 | 12,607 |
| Russia . . . . . | 3,968 | 9,451 | 9,332 |
| Australia . . . . . | 5,795 | 7,269 | 6,601 |
| Turkey, Asiatic . . . . | 3,273 | 2,830 | 4,009 |
| „ European . . . | 390 | 216 | 363 |
| Persia . . . . . | 3,254 | 2,171 | 3,136 |
| United States . . . . | 2,672 | 1,528 | 2,237 |
| China . . . . . | 1,521 | 2,009 | 1,813 |
| Ceylon . . . . . | 170 | 869 | 1,292 |
| Germany . . . . . | 592 | 546 | 930 |

Exports to the United Kingdom were less by $2\frac{1}{2}$ million lb than in 1903-04, and consequently a larger proportion was taken by foreign and colonial markets, namely, 44 million lb, compared with 37 million lb in 1903-04, and $28\frac{1}{2}$ million lb in 1902-03. The progress made in 1904-05 in supplying outside markets

was not so great as in the previous year, but including re-exports from the United Kingdom the off-take of Indian tea outside the United Kingdom was better. Notwithstanding the absence of demand for Indian green tea, of which only 1½ million lb in all was exported, the exports to America show good progress, and in view of the disturbed condition of Russia the very small decrease in the exports to that country, which in 1903-04 included 4·9 million lb shipped *viâ* Dalny, is a good augury of progress in the future. Direct trade with Persia has increased by a million lb, and the shipments to Turkish ports in the Persian Gulf and Trebizond, part of which is intended for Persia, increased by 1,157,000 lb to nearly 2¾ million lb. The predominant position of Ceylon tea in Australia keeps Indian exports to that country on a low level.

The Indian Markets Expansion Commission concluded its three years' labours on the 31st July 1904 and was then dissolved. During this period only 738,792 lb of tea was disposed of, so that the Indian market gives as yet little promise of development. The sum realised from the tea cess of one-fourth of a pie per lb on the exports of the year was R2,77,957.

Excluding Burma, which produces only pickled tea, the reported area and yield were as follows in the last two years:

| | Area (acres) | | Yield (lb) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1903 | 1904 | 1903 | 1904 |
| Assam and Cachar | 338,278 | 337,821 | 145,199,101 | 152,848,997 |
| Bengal | 135,956 | 134,668 | 50,888,084 | 53,885,829 |
| Panjab and United Provinces | 17,432 | 17,300 | 3,982,091 | 4,489,829 |
| Madras | 8,845 | 8,610 | 1,460,059 | 1,639,060 |
| Travancore | 24,580 | 24,712 | 7,241,638 | 9,073,880 |
| Total, excluding Burma | 525,091 | 523,111 | 208,770973 | 221,937,595 |

The aggregate yield of Assam, Cachar, and Bengal seems, however, to have been understated by about 4½ million lb in 1903, and to have been exaggerated by 2½ million lb in 1904.

## METALS

*Manganese ore* stands practically alone in this class, its value representing 71·5 per cent of the total value of all exported metals and manufactures thereof, other than hardware, the balance being represented by brass, copper, and iron manufactures. The rapid progress of recent years has been arrested, as the quantity exported, 180,945 tons, is very slightly less than in 1903-04, though the value of 24 lakhs is 5 per cent higher. The exports from Bombay amounting to 66·8 per cent of the total are drawn from the workings in the Central Provinces, and the ore contains a higher percentage of metal than that exported from Madras, which is produced near the coast and thus escapes the heavy transit charge of a long journey by rail. Next to Russia, India now appears to be the largest producer of manganese, which is exported to America, the United Kingdom, and the Continent for use in steel-making.

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, NARCOTICS, AND DYES

*Saltpetre.*—Except for small quantities of borax, averaging about 5,000 cwt a year, chemicals are represented by saltpetre. The exports which amounted to 348,741 cwt, value 36¼ lakhs, were 11 per cent smaller than in 1903-04, as the abnormally cold winter interfered with its manufacture. The trade is fluctuating and non-progressive, the variation during the last twenty years ranging between 321,033 cwt in 1893-94 and 528,452 cwt in 1896-97.

*Opium.*—The exports and the prices per chest are stated below:

| | *Bengal* chests | *Bombya* chests | *Total* chests | *Value* R | *Average price per chest* Bengal R | Bombay R |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . | 44,994 | 24,714 | 69,708 | 9,45,54,357 | 1,361 | 1,349 |
| 1901-02 . | 48,062 | 17,541 | 65,603 | 8,52,29,854 | 1,299 | 1,301 |
| 1902-03 . | 48,154 | 19,377 | 67,531 | 8,01,69,354 | 1,144 | 1,295 |
| 1903-04 . | 48,218 | 25,419 | 73,637 | 10,47,01,638 | 1,460 | 1,349 |
| 1904-05 . | 47,855 | 19,006 | 66,861 | 10,62,34,442 | 1,585 | 1,599 |

The Malwa crop was short, and exports from Bombay were 25 per cent smaller than in 1903-04, there being also a decrease of 363 chests in the exports from Calcutta. There was thus a total decrease in quantity by 9·3 per cent, but owing to an advance on the very high prices of the previous year of 8·4 per cent for Bengal and 12·4 per cent for Bombay, the total value rose by 1·4 per cent. The average price of the Calcutta sales was R1,616 for the calendar year 1904 and R1,587 for the year from April 1904 to March 1905, the maximum of each period being R1,765 in February and R1,740 in April 1904. Both as to maxima and averages these are the highest prices realised since 1861. Exports to Hongkong amounted to 37,820 chests, an increase of 588 chests, but the shipment of 14,163 chests to the Treaty Ports and 12,255 chests to the Straits Settlements show decreases of 3,646 chests and 1,879 chests, respectively.

*Tobacco.*—A large trade in Indian tobacco may be one of the possibilities of the future, but the exports are at present of little importance, and sudden developments noticeable from time to time, as in 1901-02, in exports of unmanufactured leaf to Aden and cigars to South Africa, have been due to temporary causes. Aden, Hongkong, the Straits, and Holland take most of the unmanufactured tobacco. The British import duty is prohibitive to unmanufactured Indian leaf, but next to the Straits the United Kingdom is the principal market for Indian cigars. The figures of the trade during the last three years are:

| | Unmanufactured | | Manufactured | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | R | Cwt | R |
| 1902-03 . . | 130,134 | 14,70,712 | 10,745 | 12,62,547 |
| 1903-04 . . | 101,500 | 12,86,241 | 9,203 | 8,10,438 |
| 1904-05 . . | 109,968 | 12,56,950 | 9,497 | 8,24,320 |

*Indigo.*—The course of the export trade in the last ten years is indicated in the subjoined figures (cwt):

| | From Calcutta | From Madras | From other ports | TOTAL | Value R |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1895-96 . | 111,714 | 62,425 | 13,198 | 187,337 | 5,35,45,112 |
| 1896-97 . | 109,001 | 43,680 | 16,842 | 169,523 | 4,37,07,570 |
| 1897-98 . | 71,364 | 48,165 | 14,320 | 133,849 | 3,05,74,019 |
| 1898-99 . | 81,779 | 42,760 | 10,648 | 135,187 | 2,97,04,781 |
| 1899-1900 . | 59,078 | 39,853 | 12,489 | 111,420 | 2,69,25,107 |
| 1900-01 . | 71,637 | 18,940 | 11,914 | 102,491 | 2,13,59,808 |
| 1901-02 . | 55,038 | 25,400 | 9,312 | 89,750 | 1,85,22,554 |
| 1902-03 . | 29,403 | 32,242 | 3,732 | 65,377 | 1,20,56,819 |
| 1903-04 . | 29,858 | 24,414 | 6,138 | 60,410 | 1,07,62,026 |
| 1904-05 . | 30,029 | 11,901 | 7,322 | 49,252 | 83,46,073 |

These figures present a melancholy record of the decline of an old and important industry. The unremunerative level to which prices have been forced down by the competition of synthetic indigo has reduced the indigo plantations of Bengal to less than half the area they occupied ten years ago, and over the whole of India the reduction in that period is 66 per cent. Planters in Bengal

are strengthening their position by cultivating other crops in addition to indigo, and they can carry on a contest for supremacy with synthetic indigo for many years, but the cultivation of indigo in Madras where the area fell by 49 per cent in 1904 appears to be rapidly approaching extinction. The season of 1904 gave a very poor yield, the deficiency compared with the previous year being estimated in the official reports at 31 per cent in Bengal and 45 per cent for the whole crop. The slight rise in exports from Calcutta is due to large exports in April 1904 from the previous year's crop.

The total exports of 1904-05 are less by 18·4 per cent in quantity and 22·4 per cent in value than the exports of the previous year. The fall in the average price was thus 4 per cent, and in Calcutta the fall was more marked in the better kinds than in the ordinary qualities. Exports to the United Kingdom maintained the level of the previous year, and there was a better demand from the Continent, especially from Russia and France. The largest exports were as usual to Egypt (mainly cheap dry leaf indigo from Madras), but the quantity was 25·1 per cent less than in 1903-04. Direct exports to Persia show a slight improvement, and there was a rise of 3·5 per cent in exports to Turkish ports in the Persian Gulf but a decline of 39 per cent to the Levant, and shipments to the United States were also smaller by 49 per cent. Exports to Japan, which for several years had been one of the chief markets for Indian indigo, almost ceased, only 168 cwt, value ₹27,700, mostly Madras indigo, being registered. The differential taxation which took effect from the 1st April 1903 and imposed an extra tax equal to 1·55 pence per lb on Indian indigo, which both Java plant indigo and German synthetic indigo escaped, placed an insupportable burden on the trade, but now that Indian indigo has been placed on a most favoured-nation basis by the Convention with Japan, which came into force on the 15th March 1905, there may be some revival of the trade. German synthetic indigo has, however, now acquired such a dominant position, and its higher percentage of colouring matter still retains for it such an advantage by reason of the duty being charged by weight, that India will find it difficult to recover lost ground.

*Other dyeing and tanning materials.—Myrabolams* are by far the most important material and the exports were above the average, but of both *cutch* and *turmeric* they were very much restricted. The figures of the trade are:

| | 1902-03 | | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ |
| Cutch . . | 70,305 | 13,42,583 | 112,938 | 19,71,896 | 62,562 | 9,71,041 |
| Myrabolams . | 1,157,650 | 37,72,255 | 1,229,609 | 42,10,288 | 1,187,585 | 42,59,063 |
| Turmeric . | 126,076 | 9,87,577 | 68,234 | 4,52,653 | 44,090 | 3,04,756 |

## Oils

The value of all articles in this class, 100⅓ lakhs, is 2·7 per cent less than the exceptional trade of the previous year. The decrease was principally in vegetable oils, and owing to short supplies of copra in Madras the exports of cocoanut oil, valued at 48·8 lakhs in 1903-04, a sum far above all previous records, fell to 29⅕ lakhs, the level of 1902-03. The exports of castor oil, valued at 16·4 lakhs, fell by 21 per cent, also owing to a poor crop, and the price of all vegetable oil, other than cocoanut oil, decreased noticeably, the fall in the case of jinjili oil being 26 per cent. Mineral oil from Burma has made remarkable progress, the exports of nearly 4¼ million gallons, value 20⅜ lakhs, being four and-a-half times greater than in 1903-04. Most of it was consigned

to China and the Straits Settlements where, as in India, it has to meet the strenuous competition of the amalgamated companies interested in the Eastern oil trade. Exports of paraffin wax, which is classed as an oil, increased in value by 37 per cent to 11⅛ lakhs. Another product of petroleum, not included in this class, is candles, in which there is a developing trade. The quantity exported in 1904-05 was 3,353,000 lb, value 9½ lakhs, the principal markets being China, the Straits Settlements, and Australia.

## Raw Materials

*Coal.*—Notwithstanding an occasional set-back, exports of Indian coal are advancing, and 594,832 tons, value 46½ lakhs, exported in 1904-05, exceed the previous year's trade by 20·6 per cent in quantity and 22 per cent in value. The volume of the exports is greater than in any previous year, but the value is much below that in either of the years 1900-01 and 1901-02, as during the last three years prices have been much depressed. The principal markets are Ceylon, taking 374,754 tons, or 117,503 tons more than in 1903-04, and the Straits Settlements, taking 143,729 tons, a slight improvement on the previous year. Exports to Sumatra also increased remarkably, from 13,975 tons to 30,802 tons, but the trade with Aden fell from 43,410 tons to 14,598 tons and to East Africa from 28,444 tons to 20,577 tons. The foreign exports, however, bear a small relation to the production which amounted in 1904 to 8,212,000 tons, an advance of nearly ¾ of a million tons on the production of 1903. All but 4,700 tons of the exports were from Calcutta, and that port shipped 1,785,916 tons by coasting vessels to other Indian ports, 46 per cent of which was directed to Bombay, and also 770,589 tons of bunker coal for use on steamers engaged in the foreign and coasting trade.

*Cotton.*—The scarcity of cotton in 1903-04, due to a short crop in America, and the extraordinary height to which prices were forced by speculation, caused a demand for Indian cotton which raised the volume of exports in that year above all precedent. The reaction set in with the appearance of an American crop of unprecedented magnitude, which allayed the fears of insufficiency in the world's supply, and the low range of prices which was then established, brought about a striking recovery in the spinning business. The fall in prices did not, however, occur till the second half of the year, so that the average value for the twelve months is the same as in 1903-04. The decrease in the total value of the trade of 28½ per cent in 1904-05 is thus attributable to the smaller volume of the exports. According to the official estimates, which hitherto have not accounted for the whole of the crop, the yield in 1903-04 was nearly 6 per cent less than the large crop preceding it, but the crop of 1904-05 showed an improvement of 11 per cent, though the outturn was poor in both Bombay and Madras, for elsewhere the season was favourable. During the last three years the area under cotton in the reporting tracts has increased from 14½ million to over 19 million acres. A view of the trade is given below:

| | *Exports* | | Declared value |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | Value | per cwt |
| | (*000 omitted*) | ₹ | ₹ a |
| 1900-01 | 3,576 | 10,12,74,007 | 28 5 |
| 1901-02 | 5,700 | 14,42,60,933 | 25 5 |
| 1902-03 | 6,045 | 14,75,71,981 | 24 6 |
| 1903-04 | 7,931 | 24,37,61,464 | 30 12 |
| 1904-05 | 5,658 | 17,43,46,872 | 30 13 |

The figures appended state the destination of cotton during the same period (cwt, 000 omitted):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Japan | 634 | 2,526 | 1,722 | 1,680 | 1,951 |
| Germany | 656 | 754 | 1,122 | 1,568 | 1,025 |
| Belgium | 599 | 413 | 779 | 1,089 | 668 |
| Italy | 421 | 520 | 647 | 1,001 | 627 |
| Austria-Hungary | 381 | 373 | 569 | 705 | 456 |
| United Kingdom | 381 | 166 | 372 | 652 | 347 |
| France | 279 | 267 | 419 | 560 | 235 |
| China | 109 | 559 | 196 | 165 | 171 |
| Spain | 57 | 67 | 111 | 265 | 127 |

The shrinking of the European demand on the appearance of a large supply of cheap American cotton emphasises the dominant position of Japan as a consumer of Indian cotton. Active measures are being taken throughout the country to improve the growths of indigenous cotton, but the effects cannot be apparent for some years to come.

*Hides and skins.*—The trade in hides varies with the supply, for the surplus after providing for local needs is readily taken for export. Estimated by weight the export of raw hides was greater by 5·7 per cent than in 1903-04, and the value increased by 17·1 per cent. The average price thus shows a rise of 11·4 per cent, and according to the declared values prices have risen steadily during the last four years. Skins on the other hand show a fall in price of 13·1 per cent, which may be partly due to absence of selection, for they were unusually light, and estimated by weight the exports were 38·4 per cent greater than in the previous year and 36 per cent above the previous record in 1901-02. Altogether the enormous quantity of $31\frac{2}{3}$ million hides and skins, to the value of $705\frac{1}{3}$ lakhs, was exported. The value of the raw hides exported from Calcutta was 84·6 per cent of the total, and they were destined mainly for the Continent, the share of Germany being $144\frac{2}{5}$ lakhs, of Italy 66 lakhs, of Austria-Hungary $51\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs, and of Spain $22\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. The United Kingdom was credited with 23 lakhs and the United States with $40\frac{4}{5}$ lakhs. Calcutta also claims 75·6 per cent of the value of the exports of dried and pickled skins, and 76·3 per cent of the total was consigned to the United States from which there is an insatiable demand for the chrome tanning industry. There is also a rising demand from France which has developed in the last two years, that country being credited with $29\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs and the United Kingdom with $25\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs. The unsatisfactory feature of the development of the exports of raw skins is the contraction of the trade in dressed skins which has accompanied it. The export figures are:

| | *Hides* | | *Skins* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | ₹ | No. | ₹ |
| 1900-01 | 14,654,818 | 5,26,62,193 | 14,349,444 | 1,72,22,325 |
| 1901-02 | 7,972,097 | 2,87,99,134 | 20,810,676 | 2,69,67,253 |
| 1902-03 | 8,210,524 | 3,01,76,046 | 18,820,523 | 2,51,93,622 |
| 1903-04 | 8,261,198 | 3,16,75,395 | 19,634,429 | 2,66,86,740 |
| 1904-05 | 8,722,520 | 3,70,87,322 | 22,883,726 | 3,34,48,263 |

*Jute.*—The remarkable feature of the year is the fluctuations in the price of raw jute. Opening with ₹$31\frac{3}{4}$ per bale of ordinary jute, the price came down to ₹30 in September 1904 after the issue of the Government forecast, which anticipated a yield of $7\frac{2}{5}$ million bales, an amount equal to the estimated outturn of the previous season's crop, and seemingly sufficient for the world's requirements. Very heavy purchases were made by the local mills, and

helped by a very strong foreign demand prices soon began to rise. The cry was then raised that this estimated yield would not be realised and in December prices jumped from R33 to R38½. By January the price was R44, by February R47, and the closing quotation was R46. The rise from the lowest to the highest price of the year thus exceeds 50 per cent. The season ends on the 31st July, and the estimated imports during the ten months ended the 31st May into Calcutta and Chittagong amount to 6,789,200 bales, to which should be added the usual allowance of half a million bales for country consumption. The arrivals of the two remaining months should justify the forecast, and the shortage was thus either created by speculation or arose from the sudden growth of the demand. The takings of the local mills during the first ten months of this season amounted to 48 per cent of the arrivals at the sea ports, and with the large extensions that are taking place the Indian mills will soon require quite half the crop.

The rise in prices affected the values of the last four months, making the total value greater by 2·1 per cent and the average value greater by 8·2 per cent than in 1903-04, though the quantity was 6·1 per cent smaller. Shipments to the United Kingdom account for 40·1 per cent of the total quantity, but nearly half of this is re-exported. Germany comes next with 20·1 per cent, the United States with 15 per cent, France with 10 per cent, Austria-Hungary with 6·2 per cent, Italy with 3·8 per cent, and Spain with 1·8 per cent. Exports from Madras doubled, but still only amount to 1·4 per cent of the total. The figures of the trade are appended:

| | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | Value R | | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | Value R |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 | 9,725 | 8,07,16,465 | 1902-03 | 13,036 | 11,12,64,752 |
| 1900-01 | 12,414 | 10,86,77,562 | 1903-04 | 13,721 | 11,71,81,222 |
| 1901-02 | 14,755 | 11,79,72,723 | 1904-05 | 12,875 | 11,96,56,462 |

*Seeds*—The exports of seeds, of which all but an insignificant fraction are oil-seeds, surpass by 8·9 per cent the volume of the exports of 1903-04, which were previously the largest known. A much larger proportion is exported of linseed than of any of the other principal oilseeds, the amount retained for local consumption according to the official estimates of the yield which cannot, however, be implicitly relied on, being on the average only 6 per cent of the total crop. The linseed crop harvested in the spring of 1904 was very large and the exports amounted to 559,100 tons, this being 29·8 per cent greater than the exports of 1903-04 and 2·9 per cent above the previous record in 1891-92. There was also a large crop of rapeseed, which did particularly well in the Panjab, and the exports increased by 18·7 per cent. The enormous addition to the world's production of linseed for which the Argentine Republic is principally responsible, for the official statistics put the exports of linseed from that country at 888,872 tons in 1904 against 587,750 tons in 1903 and 347,548 tons in 1902, had brought down the local price in April 1904 to a lower level than it had touched for more than forty years. Sesamum was also similarly affected, and the price of rapeseed and popyseed were lower than they had been for eighteen years. Though there was a temporary improvement in the middle of the year, the general level for linseed was 19·6 per cent and for rapeseed 10·8 per cent lower than the averages of 1903-04, which were 25·8 per cent and 7·3 per cent, respectively, below the averages of the previous year. The serious damage done to the oil-seeds crops by the severe frosts in the opening months of this year have, however, caused a brisk recovery of prices,

which by June 1905 had been restored to the level of January 1903. Exports of sesamum which were taken partly from the good crop of 1903-04 and partly from the very poor crop of 1904-05 decreased by 28·3 per cent, but the average price was the same as in the previous year, which was 11·2 per cent lower than in 1902-03.

Of the less important oil-seeds poppyseed shows a decrease in value of about 10 per cent, entirely owing to the low range of prices, for the quantity is the largest ever exported. The price of castor-seed has risen and this has balanced a slight decline in quantity. Cotton-seed exports decreased by 5·5 per cent in quantity and 7·8 per cent in value. This trade has been in existence for only a few years and low-priced linseed oil has recently been a competitor of cotton seed oil. Exports of earthnuts were smaller by about 13 per cent. Prices in Europe were unattractive, but the crop in Madras has also suffered from disease and the outturn has been poor. A large share of the exports of earthnuts is from the French port of Pondicherry and this escapes registration in the trade of British India. The exports from Pondicherry in 1903-04 amounted to 1,276,706 cwt, value 64·4 lakhs, against 1,068,477 cwt, value 72·7 lakhs, in 1902-03. There are also small exports of oil-seeds from the Portuguese port of Mormugao.

The principal destinations of linseed are the United Kingdom, Germany, and France; of rapeseed, Germany, Belgium, and France; of sesamum and poppyseed, France and Belgium; of earthnuts, France; and of castor, the United Kingdom. The totals of the trade and the quantities of each of the principal descriptions are stated below:

*Total trade*

| | Cwt (*000 omitted*) | *R* |
|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 | 10,998 | 9,01,40,351 |
| 1901-02 | 22,965 | 16,77,92,684 |
| 1902-03 | 22,194 | 14,88,25,711 |
| 1903-04 | 24,681 | 14,51,58,299 |
| 1904-05 | 26,874 | 14,41,08,555 |

*Quantity of each seed* (*cwt, 000 omitted*)

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Linseed | 5,060 | 7,328 | 6,328 | 8,616 | 11,182 |
| Rape | 1,727 | 6,925 | 3,927 | 4,343 | 5,155 |
| Cotton | 225 | 2,036 | 3,974 | 2,677 | 2,529 |
| Sesamum | 1,844 | 2,447 | 3,733 | 3,514 | 2,517 |
| Earthnuts | 232 | 1,085 | 1,036 | 1,922 | 1,674 |
| Castor | 876 | 1,324 | 1,752 | 1,567 | 1,461 |
| Poppy | 802 | 934 | 966 | 1,315 | 1,363 |

*Silk*.—The trade in raw silk has been unprogressive for many years, and in 1904-05 the exports of reeled mulberry silk show a set back of 19 per cent, both in quantity and value, the sum of 42½ lakhs, representing the latter, being the lowest registered for seven years. The season was unfavourable and the exports from Bengal were valued at less than 40 lakhs, a fall of 22·8 per cent. The exports from Bombay which have developed in the last four years are supplied from the silk filatures in Kashmir and their value fell from 12 to 10¾ lakhs. The exports of reeled silk were distributed to the United Kingdom, 22⅓ lakhs; to France, 18⅔ lakhs; and to the United States, slightly less than one lakh. Of waste silk and cocoons the value fell from 11 to 7⅕ lakhs, nearly half the waste, value 6⅔ lakhs, being of wild silk, as were nearly all the cocoons.

*Teak.*—Five-sixths of the wood and timber exported is teak, the only other kind of any importance being sandal wood, value 9⅘ lakhs. Teak exports decreased by 36·5 per cent to 47,000 cubic tons, value 60 lakhs, this being the smallest trade of any year since 1893-94. This great falling off in the exports is accompanied by an expansion of more than a third in the imports of teak from Siam and Java, while exports from Burma to Indian ports decreased in quantity by 8·1 per cent, so that in Indian as well as foreign markets Burma teak was displaced by teak grown in Siam and Java. It may be noted, however, that practically the whole of the teak trade in the north of Siam is now controlled by British Companies.

*Wool.*—Short supplies of wool from the Colonies and the River Plate have caused a great advance in the price. This stimulated exports of Indian wool, which approached 38⅗ million lb, a quantity 16 per cent above the exports of 1903-04 which were previously the highest recorded. The average price was 21 per cent higher so that the total value increased by 37 per cent to 189 lakhs. For the first time there were considerable exports to countries other than the United Kingdom. The latter's share was 171 lakhs; of the United States 8¼ lakhs; and of Japan 8⅕ lakhs. Re-exports of foreign wool are shown to be only 5⅙ million lb, a little less than in the previous year, but it is believed that part of what is classed as Indian wool comes from countries beyond the frontier.

The other principal articles classed as raw material show the following values in R:

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Animal bones | 54,97,967 | 41,57,119 | 37,51,480 |
| Oil-cake | 34,22,616 | 39,18,460 | 43,08,621 |
| Rice-bran | 44,40,132 | 42,00,595 | 44,00,086 |
| Hemp | 4,347,247 | 48,53,830 | 44,81,304 |
| Bristles and fibre | 15,79,002 | 20,76,331 | 18,39,854 |
| Horns | 17,05,257 | 12,05,798 | 13,72,375 |
| Mica | 13,13,909 | 12,94,453 | 14,68,986 |

Exports of *animal bones* have decreased very much in the last two years, and so small a trade has not been recorded for eleven years. *Oil-cake*, though classed with rice-bran as fodder, is chiefly exported as a manure. The increase in the value of *mica* which amounts to 13½ per cent is entirely due to improvement in quality or price for the quantity diminished by 9 per cent. On the other hand the average prices fell of oil-cake by 6½ per cent, of bristles by 9 per cent, and of horns by 13⅓ per cent. Two articles not mentioned above, of which the prices advanced remarkably, are *caoutchouc*, increase 27 per cent, and *stick lac*, increase 39½ per cent. The former which also increased in quantity by 136 per cent reached a value of 9⅒ lakhs, and the exports of the latter being 75 per cent larger attained a value of 9⅖ lakhs.

## Articles manufactured and partly manufactured

The relative proportions of each principal class of manufactures in the last five years are shown in the figures appended (R):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton yarn and goods | 5,70,29,566 | 10,86,53,008 | 10,00,76,891 | 10,47,23,079 | 11,64,31,993 |
| Jute goods | 7,86,46,012 | 8,71,14,174 | 9,01,98,987 | 9,46,91,969 | 9,93,88,676 |
| Tanned hides and skins | 4,49,41,853 | 2,65,40,451 | 2,89,81,166 | 3,09,88,759 | 2,85,17,173 |
| Lac | 1,04,97,976 | 95,15,409 | 1,80,75,444 | 2,67,99,705 | 2,98,23,017 |
| Coir | 40,17,414 | 37,73,820 | 45,76,348 | 47,90,110 | 51,65,698 |
| Woollens | 29,64,302 | 26,97,670 | 25,15,715 | 27,42,799 | 22,67,481 |
| Apparel | 20,19,814 | 20,99,657 | 26,44,959 | 21,99,556 | 18,78,706 |
| Silks | 12,54,447 | 10,54,694 | 9,48,851 | 8,32,669 | 7,30,602 |

In cotton and jute goods, lac, and coir there has been an improvement, but in the other four classes the trade has declined. There is, however, an increase in the value of the whole group of 6 per cent compared with 1903-04. With the exception of textile fabrics, the manufacturing processes are not carried to an advanced stage, and the classification is conventional rather than logical, for while shellac has undergone only slight manipulation, and the lightly tanned hides and skins a preliminary stage of manufacture, there will be found instances of materials which have been treated by special preparatory processes, or have been completely manufactured, such as milled rice, wheat flours, coffee, and tea under Articles of Food and Drink, machinery and other manufactures under Metals, saltpetre, opium, tobacco, and indigo under Chemicals, Narcotics, and Dyes, vegetable and mineral oils under Oils. The information derived from the present classification that the exports of articles wholly or partially manufactured represent 19 per cent of the total value of all exported merchandise does not therefore give quite a true impression.

*Cotton manufactures*—The figures of the export trade in yarn and piece goods are:

| | *Yarn* | | *Piece goods* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lb (*000 omitted*) | £ | Yards (*000 omitted*) | £ |
| 1900-01 | 118,081 | 4,17,05,891 | 69,342 | 1,43,32,297 |
| 1901-02 | 272,468 | 9,31,66,944 | 72,625 | 1,42,54,982 |
| 1902-03 | 248,539 | 8,54,00,344 | 69,535 | 1,32,75,431 |
| 1903-04 | 252,474 | 8,84,15,431 | 75,815 | 1,48,30,434 |
| 1904-05 | 247,855 | 9,81,56,814 | 87,456 | 1,65,14,451 |

The value of the exports of yarn is 11 per cent greater than in 1903-04, but this is entirely due to the rise in price, for the quantity was 1·8 per cent smaller. The conditions were exactly the opposite of those prevailing in the previous year, and the circumstances of the spinning industry have been completely revolutionised. In 1903-04, although the exports were unusually large, the activity was in the first eight months, and during the last four months the trade was much restricted, for the extravagant price of the raw material had destroyed the margin of the profit and short time had to be resorted to. But by the close of the year 1904-05 the fall in the price of raw cotton caused by the abundance of the American supply and the increased off-take of the principal markets, resulting from a period of restricted consumption, had launched the industry on the full tide of prosperity, so that every spindle is now employed to its full capacity and forward sales have been made for many months ahead at remunerative rates. The price of yarn has not fallen in the same proportion as the price of raw cotton, and the slow change in the price of the former has brought to the manufacturers compensation for the losses incurred during the trying period of high priced cotton. Exports to China account for 92½ per cent of the total, the trade with that country being very active during the last quarter of the year. Next to China came the Straits Settlements with 6,869,000 lb, representing 2·8 per cent of the total, but a portion of this appears to be transit trade to places beyond. The trade with the Levant and Egypt is the creation of the last four years. The exports to the former amounted to 2,112,000 lb and to the latter to 1,524,012 lb, while consignments to the European ports of Turkey, also quite a new trade and probably destined for the Levant, amounted to 614,820 lb.

Exports of grey goods amounted to 52,869,093 yards, value 71·3 lakhs, an increase of 25·7 per cent in quantity and 32·7 per cent in value, while in

coloured goods there was a decrease of nearly 1 per cent in value to 93 lakhs, though the quantity, 34,460,075 yards, was 2·6 per cent larger. The weaving mills have enjoyed greater prosperity than the spinning mills, as prices advanced to remunerative levels when cotton values rose, and the strength of the demand has maintained these prices notwithstanding the return of cotton prices to normal conditions. Cloth exports therefore were well maintained and business improved during the second half of the year. The most noticeable development is in the exports to China of grey goods which amounted to $10\frac{1}{3}$ million yards, value $15\frac{3}{3}$ lakhs, as against little more than one million yards in 1903-04, but this revival seems but a temporary effect of the war and the exceptional conditions which affected the cotton industry of the world. The ordinary markets for Indian cloth are East Africa, Aden, and ports in the Red Sea including Erythrea (Abyssinia), the Persian Gulf, Ceylon, and the Straits Settlements. About two-thirds of the dyed and printed cloth is exported from Madras, the principal destinations being the Straits, Ceylon, and the Philippines. The value of handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece increased by $58\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to $12\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, the exports being almost entirely from Madras to the United Kingdom.

The production of yarn and cloth in the Indian mills has been (lb, 000 omitted):

| | *in Bombay* | *Elsewhere* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Yarn—* | | | |
| 1900-01 | 243,625 | 109,348 | 352,973 |
| 1901-02 | 415,028 | 157,910 | 572,938 |
| 1902-03 | 419,526 | 156,168 | 575,694 |
| 1903-04 | 414,932 | 163,827* | 578,759 |
| 1904-05 | 422,249 | 156,132* | 578,381 |
| *Cloth—* | | | |
| 1900-01 | 80,689 | 18,059 | 98,748 |
| 1901-02 | 98,546 | 21,105 | 119,651 |
| 1902-03 | 100,466 | 22,110 | 122,576 |
| 1903-04 | 112,717 | 25,327 | 138,044 |
| 1904-05 | 130,998 | 27,748 | 158,746 |

There was a decrease of 34,440 spindles in the Bengal mills and of 2,344 spindles in the Madras mills but there were additions of 26,718 spindles in Bombay and 16,000 spindles in Central India, which with smaller increases in the other provinces make the net addition in 1904-05 for all India 17,124 spindles. The new looms erected numbered 2,019, of which Bombay absorbed 1,679.

*Jute manufactures.*—The yarn spun from raw jute in the Indian mills is woven into gunny cloth, of which hessians are the finest kinds, the exports consisting in fairly equal proportion of cloth and bags manufactured therefrom. The dimensions and value of the export trade are (000 omitted):

| | | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags | No. | 202,908 | 230,127 | 225,169 | 206,208 | 201,436 |
| | R | 4,43,64 | 4,72,58 | 4,64,07 | 4,56,47 | 4,75,54 |
| Cloth | yards | 365,215 | 418 567 | 492,884 | 552,320 | 575,512 |
| | R | 3,35,38 | 3,89,40 | 4,31,47 | 4,84,53 | 5,11,61 |
| Value of all sorts | R | 7,86,46 | 8,71,14 | 9,01,99 | 9,46,92 | 9,93,89 |

The year was a profitable one for the Indian mills in spite of the extraordinary rise in the price of the raw material, for large stocks were laid in at prices giving a favourable average and the briskness of trade maintained a manufacturing margin. The demand for heavy goods exceeded the supply and raised prices to a high level, though hessians remained dull. The increase in the average export price of bags for the year's trade is 6·3 per cent but for cloth it is only 1·4 per cent. A far larger proportion of the bags manufactured is required for home use, and as packings for the immense exports of grain, seed, and other produce, than is exported, while most of the cloth is manufac-

* Includes the production of two mills outside British territory which made no returns in previous years

tured for export, so that the exports of bags which were surpassed in value in 1903-04 by the exports of cloth have fallen further behind in 1904-05. The principal destinations for bags are Australasia, value 93½ lakhs, a decrease of 13·8 per cent on the shipments of the previous year; the United Kingdom, value 54¾ lakhs, this being, as in the case of exports to Hamburg, value 7¾ lakhs, mostly for redistribution and principally to North and South America; Chile, value 47⅛ lakhs, an advance of 66 per cent; China, value 44 lakhs; the Straits Settlements, value 44 lakhs, (largely for redistribution); Egypt, 41¼ lakhs, and numerous other countries in every part of the world.

The distribution of the cloth is more concentrated, for the United States took 352 million yards, value 302 lakhs, or 61 per cent of the total quantity, while they took bags to the value of 16 lakhs only. To the Argentine Republic and Uruguay also 162 million yards of cloth, value 148 lakhs, or 28 per cent of the total, were exported, but the value of bags was only 2 lakhs. Exports to the United Kingdom, mainly for re-export, were valued at 19¾ lakhs, to China at 16 lakhs, and to Australasia at 15¾ lakhs. The importance of the trade has developed the occasional sailings to South America into a regular service.

Extensions are proceeding rapidly in the Bengal mills. A trade estimate gives the number of looms at work, or in course of erection, as 19,901 on the 1st January 1904 and 21,318 on the 1st January 1905, while a further addition of 1,250 is said to be contemplated. The official figures show, however, that only 19,816 looms were at work on the 31st March 1905 and 18,228 on the corresponding date of the previous year, while the number of spindles had increased during the same period from 372,836 to 405,542, and of person employed in the mills from 122,724 to 131,886. These extensions arise from the natural desire to utilise to the full the advantages of location and environment which have carried the jute industry of Bengal on a tide of prosperity, but the accentuated competition is likely to reduce the high rate of profit unless extra supplies can be obtained of the raw material. From the forecast of the jute crop issued in September 1904 it would seem that there was an increase of 28·7 per cent on the reported area of the previous year, which had been shown as almost stationary for a long period, but for the most part the apparent increase represents corrections of imperfect estimates in the past and not actual additions to the planted area. The recently issued preliminary forecast for 1905 puts the acreage at 3,161,400 acres or 11 per cent above the estimated area sown in 1904.

An idea of the value of the goods produced in the Bengal mills can be obtained from the registered exports of jute manufactures by sea, by river, and by rail from the small area in which all these mills are situated. The exports during 1904-05 were valued at 1,432 lakhs as against 1,279 lakhs in 1903-04, a rise of nearly 12 per cent.

*Hides and skins, tanned.*—Though the tanning of hides and skins is an extensive industry throughout India, the export trade is supplied almost entirely by Madras and Bombay, the former in 1904-05 having furnished 91 per cent of the hides and 73 per cent of the skins and Bombay all but an insignificant fraction of the remainder. The exports during the last five years are:

| | *Hides* | | *Skins* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | ₹ | Cwt | ₹ |
| 1900-01 | 254,755 | 1,46,80,048 | 215,148 | 3,02,61,805 |
| 1901-02 | 134,249 | 76,70,877 | 132,193 | 1,88,69,584 |
| 1902-03 | 107,879 | 62,84,922 | 149,299 | 2,26,96,944 |
| 1903-04 | 102,625 | 61,45,989 | 161,869 | 2,48,42,770 |
| 1904-05 | 123,390 | 82,52,052 | 139,214 | 2,02,65,121 |

The exports fluctuate and were abnormally high in 1900-01 owing to the great mortality of stock caused by drought. The demand for hides was good in 1904-05 and prices advanced nearly 14 per cent, the increase in quantity being 20 per cent and in value 34 per cent. The growing demand for export in the raw state has injuriously affected the trade in tanned skins, of which the exports declined by 14 per cent in quantity and 18½ per cent in value, the lower price being partly an indication of poor quality. Skins to the value of 27⅔ lakhs were consigned to the United States, but the United Kingdom is the chief market for both tanned skins and hides, taking over 80 per cent of the former and 90 per cent of the latter, while most of the raw hides go to the Continent; and of the raw skins to the United States, this change of destinations being explained by the fact that the countries which import the raw products admit them free, but tax the manufactured article.

*Lac.*—Speculation is characteristic of the trade in lac, and this was a specially marked feature of last year's trade, so that prices have ruled above the abnormally high level of the previous year. Stick and seed lac of which the exports were valued at 9⅖ lakhs is classed separately in the trade accounts as raw material. Of the other two principal varieties, button lac decreased in quantity from 50,500 cwt to 34,276 cwt, a fall of 32 per cent, while shellac shows an increase from 178,497 cwt to 193,305 cwt, a rise of 8·3 per cent. The total rise in the average price of these two is 10·3 per cent, the highest price of the year for shellac being ₹122 per maund in April 1904 and the lowest ₹59 per maund in February 1905. The total quantity is only 258 cwt smaller, but the value of 298¼ lakhs exceeds that of 1903-04 by 11·3 per cent and of 1902-03, the next highest year, by 65 per cent. Exports to the United Kingdom were valued at 135⅓ lakhs, to the United States at 107⅕ lakhs, and to Germany at 25 lakhs.

*Coir.*—Exports of matting and other manufactures of coir are progressive, and during 1904-05 increased in value by 7·8 per cent. Over 98 per cent of the trade was from Madras, and Germany seems to take the largest share, for the direct exports to that country were valued at 16½ lakhs, while it should probably also have been credited with part of the value of 4¾ lakhs to Belgium and 3⅐ lakhs to Holland. Next come the United Kingdom with 17¾ lakhs, France with 4⅖ lakhs, and the United States with 2 lakhs.

*Woollen manufactures.*—The trade has developed slowly, and the marked improvement in 1903-04 has been followed by a set-back of over 17 per cent in 1904-05. Piece goods and other miscellaneous manufactures have increased in value from 1⅓ lakhs in 1903-04 to 3⅔ lakhs last year, but carpets and rugs, which are the principal item, have diminished in value from 26 lakhs to a little under 19 lakhs, a fall of 27 per cent and the lowest value of the last eight years. The value of the carpets sent to the United Kingdom was about 13½ lakhs and to the United States 4 lakhs.

*Apparel.*—Boots and shoes are distinguished from other forms of apparel, their value being 4⅔ lakhs out of a total of 18¾ lakhs. The trade was stimulated by the South African war and reached its highest in 1902-03, since when exports to South Africa have steadily declined. The decrease compared with 1903-04 is 14·6 per cent.

*Silk manufactures.*—The exports have steadily diminished during the last five years, the decrease compared with 1903-04 being 12 per cent, and what was once a trade of some importance is rapidly approaching insignificance. The exports are chiefly of tissues woven in Bengal from indigenous silks, for the

Bombay mills employ imported silk and weave principally for the home market.

*General distribution of the export trade.*—The value of the exports of Indian produce and manufactures in the last five years was distributed in the ratios stated below among the principal countries with which the trade is carried on:

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom | 30·1 | 25·1 | 25·2 | 27·1 | 27·5 |
| China | 11·3 | 14·5 | 12·6 | 11·9 | 12·6 |
| Germany | 8·8 | 8·4 | 8 | 9·9 | 9·2 |
| United States | 6·9 | 6·9 | 6·7 | 6 | 6·3 |
| Japan | ·2 | 5·7 | 4·6 | 5·6 | 6·3 |
| France | 5·7 | 7·3 | 7·2 | 6·6 | 6·2 |
| Belgium | 3·4 | 3·9 | 3·9 | 5·1 | 5·4 |
| Straits Settlements | 6·6 | 5·2 | 6 | 4·8 | 4·1 |
| Ceylon | 4·6 | 3·7 | 3·5 | 3 | 3·2 |
| Austria-Hungary | 2·6 | 2 | 2·5 | 3·2 | 3 |
| Italy | 2·9 | 2·4 | 2·7 | 3·3 | 2·7 |
| Egypt | 4·3 | 4·4 | 6·1 | ·9 | ·8 |

From 1903-04 trade with Egypt is shown in its true proportions, as from that year the large shipments of produce, principally rice and wheat, which were consigned to Port Said to await orders for delivery, have been credited to the countries of final destination, instead of to Egypt, on information supplied by the exporters. The distribution of the export trade with European countries is therefore now recorded with some exactness and with far greater accuracy than the origin is recorded of imports. There is, however, still no provision for recording exports to countries which possess no sea-board, as Switzerland, and although the exporter is required to declare the final destination of the goods, it has been found that, through ignorance or misapprehension, the place declared by the exporter has been sometimes an intermediate port of transhipment. In the Western trade an erroneous declaration happens most frequently in the case of shipments to the Free Ports and in the Eastern trade in shipments to Singapore and Hongkong. Attention is now being directed to the removal, as far as possible, of these defects.

## Customs Revenue

No fiscal legislation affecting the customs revenue was undertaken during the year. The additional import duty on bounty-fed sugar imposed under section 8-A of the Indian Tariff Act remained in force in respect of sugar produced in or imported from Denmark, Chile, and the Argentine Republic, and the special duties to countervail bounties on sugar created by private trade combination, which had been imposed under section 8-B of the same Act, also remained in force in respect of sugar from Denmark, the Argentine Republic, and Russia. The rules for the identification of sugar chargeable with an additional or special duty were consolidated and amended by a notification issued in August 1904, and the forms were further amended by notification in March 1905. In the same month the cancellation was notified of the notifications of December 1903, requiring sugar produced before the 31st August 1903 in countries that had adhered to the Brussels Convention, which remained liable to additional duties, to be distinguished from sugar produced after that date, which could not be charged with these duties, so that the only certificates now required of importers are those prescribed in the revised rules published in August 1904.

Exemptions from import duty were notified in respect of trade catalogues and circulars imported by packet, book or parcel post, and also of certain dairy appliances, which being constructed so as to be workable by manual or animal power are not exempt as machinery. The tariff valuations for assessment to duty were revised in December 1904, and a new schedule of valuations was issued having effect from the 1st January 1905.

The gross revenue from imports, salt excluded, for the salt duty (235 lakhs in 1904-05) is not credited as a customs receipt, was ₹4,88,35,594, and the net revenue after deduction of refunds and drawbacks was ₹4,80,35,749, the gross revenue being better by 43⅓ lakhs and the net revenue by 48 lakhs than in 1903-04. The amount realised from the additional and special duties on sugar has become insignificant, the receipts from the former being ₹17,277 and from the latter ₹9,760.

The following are the principal items from which the customs revenue on imports is derived (₹):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Articles of food and drink:* | | | |
| Spirit | 69,64,128 | 75,16,845 | 76,58,725 |
| Sugar | 45,40,786 | 31,61,415 | 32,70,731 |
| Provisions | 5,76,499 | 6,15,469 | 6,33,529 |
| Spices | 4,36,244 | 4,11,734 | 5,32,358 |
| *Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, dyes:* | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, narcotics | 4,97,731 | 5,46,851 | 5,73,854 |
| Chemicals | 3,21,144 | 3,42,890 | 3,66,000 |
| Dyes and tans | 3,88,596 | 4,92,320 | 4,50,288 |
| *Metals and articles made of metals:* | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 10,36,819 | 11,72,396 | 12,20,000 |
| Copper and brass | 10,93,547 | 11,04,258 | 10,76,285 |
| Iron and steel | 5,48,863 | 7,06,153 | 7,06,357 |
| Silver | 39,40,580 | 40,27,356 | 41,11,977 |
| *Manufactures of cotton:* | | | |
| Piece goods: grey (unbleached) | 53,15,838 | 45,74,785 | 56,46,824 |
| „ white (bleached) | 17,72,512 | 21,56,913 | 28,72,855 |
| „ coloured | 22,99,067 | 27,91,707 | 31,64,621 |
| *Oils:* | | | |
| Petroleum | 53,79,857 | 43,99,912 | 45,87,939 |

Of the other articles enumerated in the tariff schedules, those mentioned below yield individually a revenue of some consequence (₹):

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel | 8,09,564 | 9,18,753 | 10,26,137 |
| Silk and articles made of silk | 11,02,840 | 12,09,492 | 14,38,006 |
| Woollen goods | 7,07,201 | 10,80,195 | 15,39,361 |
| Glass and glassware | 4,75,193 | 4,99,110 | 5,63,896 |

The articles specified above account in the aggregate for 85 per cent of the total revenue, and including six other articles, namely, arms and ammunition, cotton manufactures (other than piece goods), fruits and vegetables, instruments, wines, and paper, yielding individually between 3½ and 5 lakhs and jointly ₹24,05,044, the share of the total is raised to 89·8 per cent. The lengthy list of dutiable articles in the Indian tariff thus comprises only a small number which yield an appreciable revenue, and those from which the revenue collected is of importance are very few, namely, spirituous liquor, petroleum, sugar,

metals (including silver), and cotton piece goods, which yielded last year 68·7 per cent of the whole revenue. Of the articles mentioned those subject to special rates of duty are arms and ammunition, wines and spirits, petroleum, and (in addition to the general duty) sugar. The general duty on imports is 5 per cent, which in the case of cotton goods is reduced to $3\frac{1}{2}$, and in the case of most classes of iron and steel to 1, per cent.

The export tariff schedule is limited to rice and rice flour, a duty of three annas (three-sixteenths of a rupee) being levied on each maund of $82\frac{2}{7}$lb. The net duty realised last year, R1,28,75,997, was $11\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs greater than in 1903-04 and is the highest recorded.

A customs duty at the rate of a quarter of a pie (one-forty-eighth of an anna) per pound has also been levied from the 1st April 1903 on all tea produced in India and exported from any customs port to any port beyond the limits of British India, the collections being paid to a committee constituted to receive and expend the proceeds of this cess on measures for promoting the sale and increasing the consumption of teas produced in India. The collections amounted to R2,77,957, gross, and R2,75,490, net.

## Balance of Trade

The figures appended state the excess of exports over imports, including merchandise and treasure, in each of the last five years (R):

| | Including Government transactions | Excluding Government transactions |
|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 | 16,47,46,000 | 22,10,20,000 |
| 1901-02 | 26,78,43,000 | 31,76,01,000 |
| 1902-03 | 27,85,62,000 | 38,58,17,000 |
| 1903-04 | 37,06,79,000 | 44,97,18,000 |
| 1904-05 | 30,21,58,000 | 35,77,10,000 |

In the same year the drawings of Council bills have been:

| | £ | Exchange, pence | R |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 | 13,300,276 | 15·973 | =19,98,38,000 |
| 1901-02 | 18,539,071* | 15·987 | =27,83,02,000 |
| 1902-03 | 18,499,947* | 16·002 | =27,74,67,000 |
| 1903-04 | 23,859,303* | 16·049 | =35,67,95,000 |
| 1904-05 | 24,425,558* | 16·045 | =36,53,57,000 |

The net excess of exports, that is, including Government transactions, is $685\frac{1}{5}$ lakhs below the extraordinary surplus in 1903-04. During the last fifteen years it has been equalled twice and largely exceeded on two other occasions. Assuming that the values are correctly recorded, there are still some adjustments to make on account of unregistered trade. In the first place there is considerable excess of exports from the French Settlements, the figures for the three years ending 1903-04 being 102, 126, and $59\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, respectively. The trade of the Portuguese Settlements direct with foreign countries is small and shows a slight excess of imports of about one lakh a year, but the trade carried on by native craft from ports in the Native States on the West Coast of India with Persia, Arabia, and Ceylon, none of which is registered, must be considerable, and probably exports largely predominate. There are also large re-exports of pearls from Bombay whose average value probably exceeds 100 lakhs, but as they are sent by letter post they are not

* Inclusive of drawings on account of the Gold Reserve Fund

recorded as exports. For the same reason exports of gems from Burma were unrecorded until 1904-05, when special returns were made to the Customs by the Burma Ruby Mines Company. Exports of Government stores, other than treasure, are also imperfectly recorded. Their value as stated is usually small, being 16¾ lakhs in 1904-05, but during the two previous years it was 52 lakhs and 49¾ lakhs, respectively, the increase being caused by the Somaliland expedition. These exports do not affect the balance of trade, since nothing is given in exchange for them, but still they are recorded, while stores supplied to His Majesty's Government for which payments from the British Exchequer amounting to £2,145,000 were made in the three years 1900-03 were not registered as exports.

## Gold and silver

The value of imports and exports is (R):

| | Imports | Exports | Net imports |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Gold—* | | | |
| 1900-01 | 11,89,80,000 | 11,05,59,000 | 84,21,000 |
| 1901-02 | 8,30,75,000 | 6,36,99,000 | 1,93,76,000 |
| 1902-03 | 13,19,24,000 | 4,42,78,000 | 8,76,46,000 |
| 1903-04 | 20,14,79,000 | 10,21,62,000 | 9,93,17,000 |
| 1904-05 | 21,81,20,000 | 12,10,61,000 | 9,70,59,000 |
| *Silver—* | | | |
| 1900-01 | 12,67,87,000 | 3,17,15,000 | 9,50,72,000 |
| 1901-02 | 12,29,38,000 | 5,10,10,000 | 7,19,28,000 |
| 1902-03 | 12,18,65,000 | 5,22,98,000 | 6,95,67,000 |
| 1903-04 | 18,37,82,000 | 4,82,77,000 | 13,55,05,000 |
| 1904-05 | 17,69,62,000 | 4,32,27,000 | 13,37,35,000 |

Adding to the imports, or deducting from the exports, the gold produced in the Indian mines, valued at R3,55,02,612 in 1904-05, which is exported to London for assay, the net addition to the stock of gold was R13,25,61,471, compared with R13,44,47,045 in 1903-04. The nearest approach to these rupee values is 1,213 lakhs in 1899-1900, but expressed in sterling the results are different, for in 1863-64 and 1864-65, when the sterling value of the rupee was half as high again as it is now, the values were £8,851,961 and £9,788,714, respectively, compared with £8,963,136 in 1903-04 and £8,837,431 in 1904-05. Owing to a mistaken valuation of silver bullion, at the rate applying to coined rupees, the imports and exports of silver during 1903-04 were overstated in the report for that year, the former by 160⅓ lakhs and the latter by 122⅘ lakhs. The correction makes the value of the net imports 1,355 lakhs in that year as against 1,337⅓ lakhs in 1904-05. Owing to the wide difference between the metallic value and the face value of the rupee, which has developed since the closing of the mints to the public in June 1893, these sums represent a much larger quantity of silver than imports of higher rupee values when the mints were open. Stated in ounces the net imports of gold and silver and the Indian production of the former during the last five years have been:

| | Production of gold | Imports of gold | Imports of silver |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 | 506,890 | 106,678 | 49,435,164 |
| 1901-02 | 524,461 | 274,506 | 39,005,192 |
| 1902-03 | 534,763 | 1,416,618 | 43,274,305 |
| 1903-04 | 613,755 | 1,566,237 | 78,575,469 |
| 1904-05 | 619,565 | 1,516,991 | 74,956,262 |

The value of the net imports of gold in 1904-05, in their widest sense, was, as stated above, R13,25,61,471 (£8,837,431) and included sovereigns and half

sovereigns to the value of R4,68,28,064 (£3,121,871), the remainder being bullion. The whole of these imports and gold to the value of £43,528 released from the Government reserves went into the hands of the public. The exports of gold by the Government, amounting to £5,605,000 included remittances to London of £4,500,000 for the purchase of silver and £1,100,000 for investment in gold securities on behalf of the Gold Reserve Fund. The difference between the total of the remittances and the reduction of £43,528 in the gold reserve, or £5,561,471, is the approximate value of the gold tendered by the public in exchange for rupees. This is considerably more than the sum of £4,326,099 tendered by the public in 1903-04.

The registered exports of rupees exceeded the registered imports by R60,64,413, and the net withdrawal from the currency caused by this outward flow, which in 1904-05 was mainly directed to Ceylon, East Africa, and Arabia, has amounted to 696·8 lakhs in the last ten years. The net importation of silver bullion was 79,322,372 ounces, value R14,36,10,010, and includes 35,105,027 ounces, value R6,36,32,687, imported by the Government both for immediate coinage and for the formation of the new ingot reserve of standard silver, which reached its fixed limit of 30 million tolas (11,250,000 ounces) in November 1904, the intention being to keep it as an emergency reserve to meet sudden demands for coinage. The value of the rupee and small silver coinage in the Bombay and Calcutta mints during 1904-05 was R11,37,04,366, of which R7,77,54,873, representing 29,158,077 ounces, was new coinage. The quantity of new silver passed into the mints of Native States in 1904 was 3,304,125 ounces, this being about eight times the quantity used in 1903 and two and a half times the average of the last ten years.

An estimate was made in the review of the trade of 1903-04 of the net imports of gold and silver since 1835-36. Adding the figures for 1904-05, the totals are, gold net imports £167,959,439, and gold production £21,208,210, which together give £189,167,649 as the absorption of gold during the last 70 years. The value of the net imports of silver in the same period is R4,47,90,91,615, of which the estimated equivalent is 1,729,621,823 ounces.

## Trade with Countries

The trade of India with the world in merchandise, imported and exported, was distributed as follows last year, compared with the two preceding years (R, 000 omitted):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Europe | 131,15,12 | 157,37,21 | 169,00,76 |
| Africa and adjacent islands | 14,15,50 | 8,79,80 | 8,09,20 |
| Asia | 48,32,60 | 55,70,30 | 59,57,09 |
| America | 12,04,57 | 13,38,43 | 14,98,19 |
| Australia | 1,92,53 | 2,52,55 | 2,52,57 |
| TOTAL | 207,60,32 | 237,78,29 | 254,17,81 |

The figures for 1902-03 credit to Egypt large shipments of produce carried in vessels calling at Egyptian ports for orders, and thus exaggerate the trade with Africa, but since the discontinuance of this system in 1903-04, the distribution of the trade with the Continents is shown fairly accurately, although a small share of the trade with America is still credited to Europe and Asia. The recorded trade with Europe in 1904-05 was 66·5 per cent of the whole, compared with 66·1 per cent in 1903-04, and with Asia 23·4 per cent, a rate which has remained unchanged for three years. In trade with America the

exports are about nine times the value of the imports, and the recorded increase in the total is partly due to more frequent sailings direct from Indian to American ports. Turning to individual countries the special reservations, indicated at pages 19, 20, and 39, in the remarks on the distribution of the import and export trade, must be made in respect of transit and transhipment trade, when it is a question of determining the trading interests of certain countries with India, for the statistical classification is founded on the principle of goods passing from one country to another in unbroken transit by sea, and thus only indirectly on the principle of commercial exchange. The value of the trade with each of the principal countries, according to the statistical classification, is stated in the appended list (₹, 000 omitted) :

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. United Kingdom | 84,66,27 | 96,30,58 | 106,17,59 |
| 2. China | 18,19,23 | 20,03,66 | 21,62,93 |
| 3. Germany | 12,33,76 | 17,73,97 | 18,03,84 |
| 4. Belgium | 8,05,72 | 10,97,50 | 11,91,95 |
| 5. France | 10,56,95 | 11,47,54 | 11,36,47 |
| 6. United States | 9,74,80 | 10,33,52 | 11,21,73 |
| 7. Japan | 6,70,48 | 9,74,06 | 10,91,84 |
| 8. Straits Settlements | 10,09,71 | 9,87,22 | 9,51,00 |
| 9. Austria-Hungary | 5,77,09 | 7,03,01 | 8,70,63 |
| 10. Ceylon | 5,24,51 | 5,41,19 | 5,73,50 |
| 11. Italy | 4,25,47 | 5,93,88 | 5,54,18 |
| 12. Mauritius | 3,13,20 | 3,85,85 | 3,19,55 |
| 13. Russia | 3,09,64 | 3,28 73 | 2,25,57 |
| 14. Egypt | 8,02,05 | 1,92,91 | 1,93,58 |

The share of the United Kingdom in 1904-05 is 41·8 per cent, compared with 40·4 per cent in the previous year, and if the value of stores imported for State departments and State railways be included the share is raised to 43·3 per cent.

## Shipping

A vast export trade and a great development of the import trade caused a large increase in numbers and tonnage, of which 97·5 per cent was steam tonnage.

Below are given the number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to all countries :

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 | 8,302 | 8,269,430 | 996 |
| 1901-02 | 8,613 | 9,625,317 | 1,118 |
| 1902-03 | 9,089 | 10,926,560 | 1,202 |
| 1903-04 | 9,530 | 12,559,260 | 1,318 |
| 1904-05 | 9,798 | 13,881,336 | 1,417 |

The total number of steamers which entered and cleared was 6,386 with an aggregate burden of 13,528,347 tons, the average tonnage of each steamer being 2,118 tons.

The entries from and clearances to the United Kingdom were 3,273,419 tons, being 23·6 per cent of the total tonnage. Entries from and clearances to British Possessions amounted to 5,233,914 tons, or 37·7 per cent of the whole. The tonnage from and to the United Kingdom and British Possessions amounted, therefore, to 61·3 per cent of the whole.

The vessels which enter and leave the ports of India for the most part fly the British flag, and the tonnage under that flag which increased largely in 1904-05 represented about 83 per cent of the whole. Adding the proportion

of the tonnage of vessels under the British Indian registry, a little less than 84 per cent of the trade of India was carried under the British flag.

The number of vessels under foreign flags, which entered and left Indian ports last year, was 1,174, their burden aggregating 2,112,428 tons, a considerable decrease in tonnage on the preceding year.

The number of vessels under the principal flags are stated below:

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| British . . . | 3,935 | 3,988 | 4,257 | 4,772 | 5,633 |
| German . . . | 232 | 270 | 325 | 393 | 339 |
| Austro-Hungarian . | 147 | 164 | 142 | 134 | 156 |
| Norwegian . . | 28 | 78 | 116 | 173 | 141 |
| French . . . | 145 | 149 | 157 | 143 | 94 |
| Italian . . . | 60 | 60 | 54 | 63 | 74 |

A new line of steamers sailing monthly from Calcutta to Australia and New Zealand was established in June 1904, and a monthly service is about to be started between Calcutta and the River Plate.

## Frontier Trade

The trade across the land frontiers is relatively small, but it is progressive, and during the last ten years the grand total of the registered imports and exports of both merchandise and treasure has increased in value by 66 per cent. The value of the trade in 1904-05 increased by 161 lakhs, of which approximately 81 lakhs represented merchandise and 80 lakhs treasure. The totals of imports and exports in the last five years are (₹):

| | Imports | | Exports | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Merchandise | Treasure | Merchandise | Treasure | Total |
| 1900-01 . | 6,41,48,898 | 68,44,065 | 5,42,61,723 | 1,14,45,220 | 13,66,99,906 |
| 1901-02 . | 6,89,94,079 | 85,17,857 | 6,02,61,390 | 58,22,752 | 14,35,96,078 |
| 1902-03 . | 6,14,20,422 | 72,90,579 | 5,29,37,593 | 51,20,115 | 12,67,68,709 |
| 1903-04 . | 7,02,87,433 | 76,20,466 | 5,37,07,076 | 57,57,953 | 13,73,72,928 |
| 1904-05 . | 7,06,00,314 | 1,44,46,889 | 6,15,05,629 | 68,19,991 | 15,33,72,823 |

There are no railways crossing the frontier, except the branch line from Sialkot to Jammu in Kashmir which has quite a small traffic, but about two-thirds of the trade with Kandahar is carried by rail to or from stations close to the frontier and is registered as railway traffic. At all other points along the frontier, whether in the proximity of railways or not, the registration is made at small posts on the roads crossing the frontier, and as there are no legal formalities or customs duties, there is rarely any examination of the goods, the nature of which is determined from the declarations of the carriers. The registering staff consists at the most of two men, and frequently of a single man, though traffic may pass by night as well as by day, and inspections of some of the remoter posts are too infrequent to be effective. The results obtained are therefore at the best only approximations to accuracy, and occasionally omissions or mistakes of some magnitude are revealed, but on the whole the recorded movements of merchandise are fairly trustworthy. The inducements to conceal the possession of gold and silver are, however, so strong that the registration of these metals is very imperfect, while on the other hand exaggerated declarations are sometimes made, so that no reliance can be placed on the figures relating to treasure. In 1904-05, for example, the large addition to the recorded imports of treasure is chiefly due to the receipt of 66⅔ lakhs from Kashmir and 14½ lakhs from Afghanistan, but enquiries show that the imports from Kashmir have been exaggerated by the registration at one post of gold carried by traders from Yarkand to the value of 55¾ lakhs, which must be almost entirely fictitious.

The total trade in merchandise only, with each of the principal countries, proceeding from west to east along the line of frontier, is stated below (₹, 000 omitted):

| | | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N.-W. Frontier | Afghanistan— | | | | | |
| | Southern and Western | 58,19 | 68,54 | 53,48 | 68,02 | 76,53 |
| | Northern and Eastern | 48,01 | 61,00 | 63,99 | 70,56 | 95,36 |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur | 99,66 | 1,02,65 | 96,06 | 89,08 | 1,94,55 |
| | Kashmir | 2,24,79 | 2,57,67 | 2,05,18 | 2,36,09 | 2,23,97 |
| N. and N.-E. Frontier | Tibet | 25,32 | 29,72 | 31,43 | 20,62 | 22,39 |
| | Nepal | 3,98,61 | 4,09,20 | 3,84,30 | 3,92,69 | 3,99,65 |
| E. Frontier | Western China | 44,00 | 68,51 | 43,73 | 45,04 | 49,92 |
| | North Shan States | 82,45 | 70,65 | 78,00 | 85,20 | 98,70 |
| | South Shan States | 67,36 | 68,89 | 63,53 | 70,74 | 89,08 |
| | Karenni | 27,08 | 21,58 | 25,65 | 32,86 | 27,41 |
| | North Siam | 28,03 | 34,27 | 25,93 | 33,38 | 39,64 |

*North-Western Frontier*

Nearly 38 per cent of the whole of last year's trade crossed this frontier.

*Seistan.*—Trade with Persian Seistan will doubtless improve when the railway is opened to Nushki, but it has made no progress in the last two years, the value being still only 5½ lakhs. Cottons, 1·5 lakhs, and indigo, 1·2 lakhs, are the principal exports.

*Afghanistan.*—Mention was made last year of the reduction of the heavy Afghan transit dues on tea and indigo destined for Bokhara to the equivalent of 2½ per cent *ad valorem*, and, if a more liberal fiscal policy were adopted by the Amir, there would be a large expansion of the trade with Afghanistan, which has, however, improved considerably in the last year. The principal imports from Kabul are fruits and nuts, 7·9 lakhs, animals (horses, sheep, and goats) 4·4 lakhs, hides (including skins) and ghi each about 2½ lakhs, the total being 26 lakhs as in the previous year. Exports improved by 25 lakhs to 69⅓ lakhs. Cattle, sheep, and goats account for 8⅘ lakhs of the increase, but it is doubtful whether these animals were exported for sale as no such trade appears in other years. Cotton fabrics, value 38⅓ lakhs, (more than two-thirds being of foreign manufacture), increased by 12½ lakhs. The other principal articles are cotton yarn, (mostly foreign) 3·2 lakhs, and leather, 2·5 lakhs. The exports of tea (nearly all green tea) were 397,265 lb Indian, value 1·5 lakhs, and 300,384 lb foreign, value 3·1 lakhs. Among imports from Kandahar, value 40⅕ lakhs, are raw wool, 18·8; fruits and nuts, 12·2; and ghi, 2·6 lakhs, in all of which there was a larger trade. The exports reached 36⅓ lakhs, the two principal articles, Indian cottons, 14·7, and foreign piece-goods, 10 lakhs, both showing an improvement.

*Dir, Swat, and Bajaur.*—Imports from Dir, Swat, and Bajaur, value 38·7 lakhs, principally ghi, 17·8, grain, 8·7, and hides, 6·1 lakhs, continue to improve; and more noticeable still is the increase of 10 lakhs in exports, value 66 lakhs, consisting of raw cotton, 3; cotton yarn, 8·3, and piece goods, 34·7 (both, chiefly foreign); salt, 4·8; sugar, 2·3; with indigo, fruits, leather, metals, tea, and tobacco between one and two lakhs each. Indian tea increased from 102,256 lb to 181,552 lb and foreign tea from 76,944 lb to 79,408 lb, nearly the whole being green tea.

*Kashmir*—There was a decrease in the trade with Kashmir both in imports, value 114 lakhs, and exports, value 110 lakhs. The principal decrease was in the timber, floated down the rivers, from 30·2 to 19·3 lakhs. The other chief imports are ghi, 30; hides and skins, 13·5; silk, 8·8; drugs, 8·6; fruits and nuts,

7·5 ; and grain, 4·6 lakhs. The reeled silk produced in the State filatures is of excellent quality and its true value must have been double that stated above. Chief among exports are cotton yarn, 5·2 lakhs, and piece goods, 43·8 lakhs, the latter diminishing by 4·8 lakhs, and both being mainly of foreign manufacture ; sugar, 11·7 ; salt, 9·3; grain, 6 ; Indian tea (half green), 5·3 ; tobacco, 3·9; and drugs, 2·5 lakhs. Tea exports increased from 1,251,004 lb to 1,484,448 lb.

*Ladakh.*—Trade with Ladakh is registered separately from trade with Kashmir, and charas, the only import of consequence, increased from 4·8 to 9·3 lakhs, this being due entirely to the increased price, for the quantity was smaller, namely, 2,276 cwt as against 2,707 cwt in 1903-04. This drug which comes from Central Asia is subject to a high excise duty, and 542 cwt, value 2·8 lakhs, came through Kashmir. Exports to Ladakh, value 3 lakhs, consist of cotton piecegood (foreign), $2\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, and small consignments of coral, tea, spices, and indigo.

*Northern and North-Eastern Frontier*

*Nepal.*—By far the largest trade which crosses this frontier is that with Nepal, which amounted last year to 30 per cent of the whole trade, and the frontier is so extensive that much produce exchanged with the British districts on the border does not pass by the main roads and thus escapes registration. The registered imports of 254 lakhs decreased by $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, and included grain (chiefly rice) 128·3 ; living animals, 27·9 ; seeds (rape and linseed), 25·5 ; provisions (ghi), 17·8 ; fibres (chiefly jute), 12·6 ; hides and skins, 9·4 ; spices, 9 ; timber, 7·7 lakhs, as well as dyes, drugs, and tobacco of smaller values. Exports increased by $11\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs to $145\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs, the chief items being cotton yarn, 15 and piece goods, 57·7 (both, mainly foreign) ; metals, 16 ; salt, 11·4 ; provisions, 7 ; spices, 6·5 ; oils (petroleum) 6 ; sugar, 6 ; tobacco, 4 ; animals, 3·3 ; and fruits, 2·5 lakhs.

*Tibet.*—Trade with Tibet has not had time to recover from the check it received through the disturbances in 1903-04 and to benefit from the trading facilities secured by the signing of the Treaty of Lhasa in September 1904. Imports, value 12 lakhs, fell by one lakh and were 8 lakhs less than in 1902-03 ; raw wool, 5·8 ; borax, 2·2 ; salt, 1·7 ; ponies and mules, 1 lakh ; being the principal articles. Exports, value $10\frac{2}{5}$ lakhs, increased by $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, and were composed of cotton yarn and cloth (mostly imported piece goods) , 2·4 ; grain, 1·9 ; woollens, 1·3 ; coral nearly 1 lakh, with metals, sugar, tobacco, and silk goods among numerous minor articles.

*Other States and frontier tribes.*—Along the remainder of this frontier from Bhutan to the north-east corner of Assam, where a new trade route may eventually be opened into Tibet and including both Manipur and Hill Tipperah to the south, there is at present hardly any trade worthy of the name. Timber, 6·8 lakhs, and caoutchouc, 2·6 lakhs, are the two most notable imports.

*Eastern Frontier*

*Western China.*—On this frontier the trade with Western China, which is mainly from Bhamo to Tengyueh in Yunnan, continued to improve, and imports, value 13·1 lakhs, rose by 1·3 lakhs, these consisting of raw silk, 4·5 ; animals (one-third mules), 2·4 ; hides, 1·7 ; lac and orpiment each, 1 lakh. Exports, value 36·8 lakhs, increased by 3·6 lakhs; Indian cotton yarn, 23·7; raw cotton, 5·6 ; cotton piece goods (imported), 2·7 ; jade, 1·5 ; salt, 1·1 ; and provisions, 1 lakh, being the chief items.

*Shan States.*—By far the most important trade registered on this frontier is with the Shan States which, though treated for convenience of registration as foreign countries, are British territory administered under the local chiefs. Both imports and exports are progressive, but the large increase, 13⅔ lakhs, in exports to the Southern Shan States, is partly the result of improved registration. Among imports, value 54⅓ lakhs, from the Northern Shan States are pickled tea, 24·8; tea (leaf), 10·6; teak, 8·1; grain, 1·8; lac, 1·6; and caoutchouc, 1 lakh; while exports, value 44½ lakhs, include cotton yarn, 6 (mainly Indian); cotton piece goods (mostly imported), 12·5; provisions, 7·4; salt, 2·8; metals, 2·4; betelnuts and leaves, 2 lakhs. The imports from the Southern Shan States, value 43 lakhs, include ponies, mules, and cattle, 11·2; teak, 9·3; lac, 6·5; potatoes and other vegetables, 4·1; paints and colours, 1·3; and silk, 1 lakh; while the exports, value 46·2 lakhs, consist of cotton yarn (mainly Indian), 2·2; cotton piece goods (mainly imported), 17·6; silk goods, 4·6; provisions (mostly salted fish), 3·8; betelnuts, 3·2; woollens, 2·2; oil (petroleum), 2; metals, 1·7; and apparel, 1·5 lakhs.

*North Siam* has imports, 29 lakhs, consisting of cattle and other animals 14; teak, 12·8; silks, 2 lakhs; and exports, 10·7 lakhs, including cotton yarn and piece-good, 4·3; silks, 1·6; and apparel 1 lakh. Cattle and other animals, 6 lakhs, and silks 1¼ lakhs, make up the imports from South Siam, the value of the exports being 2 lakhs.

*Karenni.*—There are only trifling exports to Karenni, value 2⅓ lakhs, but there are large imports of teak, value 24 lakhs, which is, however, nearly 7 lakhs below the value of the large imports in 1903-04.

The general character of the trade carried on across the Indian frontiers is indicated by the appended list of the principal articles, imported and exported, with their values in the last three years (₹, 000 omitted):

*Imports*

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cattle | 23,61 | 33,29 | 39,59 |
| Other animals | 24,41 | 38,38 | 35,16 |
| Drugs and medicines, including charas | 23,98 | 20,72 | 25,85 |
| Fibrous products (chiefly jute) | 11,84 | 12,12 | 13,32 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 28,59 | 31,01 | 37,23 |
| Grain and pulse (largely rice) | 1,36,64 | 1,49,78 | 1,47,63 |
| Hides and skins | 26,18 | 35,13 | 35,90 |
| Ghi (clarified butter) | 53,09 | 64,05 | 71,94 |
| Pickled tea | 17,62 | 22,06 | 24,88 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rapeseed) | 39,97 | 32,22 | 28,52 |
| Silk | 20,10 | 17,44 | 18,42 |
| Spices | 20,25 | 17,17 | 12,18 |
| Wood and timber, chiefly teak | 86,31 | 1,22,35 | 94,94 |
| Wool, raw | 23,91 | 27,10 | 30,89 |
| Woollen goods | 9,47 | 11,11 | 12,58 |

*Exports*

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton, raw | 12,49 | 7,60 | 11,03 |
| Cotton yarn: | | | |
| Foreign | 32,58 | 28,28 | 31,25 |
| Indian | 25,63 | 33,30 | 34,80 |
| Cotton goods: | | | |
| Foreign | 1,55,28 | 1,50,31 | 1,87,86 |
| Indian | 52,60 | 63,34 | 64,91 |
| Grain and pulse | 18,65 | 17,39 | 16,67 |
| Metals, mainly brass, copper, and iron | 25,27 | 30,42 | 32,11 |
| Oils | 11,34 | 13,50 | 14,18 |
| Provisions | 20,49 | 19,43 | 21,97 |
| Salt | 31,42 | 31,46 | 33,03 |
| Silk goods | 9,54 | 8,22 | 8,97 |
| Spices | 16,76 | 14,04 | 17,06 |
| Sugar | 25,04 | 27,04 | 26,67 |
| Tea | 11,73 | 12,69 | 12,40 |
| Tobacco | 10,16 | 12,10 | 13,03 |

There is an increase of 25 per cent in the value of the cotton piece goods of British and foreign manufacture exported to Afghanistan, Dir, Swat, Bajaur, Nepal, and the Shan States, one-third of this being due to the higher price of these goods.

The relative importance of the trade of each frontier province with the countries adjoining its border is represented in the figures appended (₹, 000 omitted):

| | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sind and Baluchistan | 86,93 | 1,02,18 | 75,30 | 88,47 | 1,04 90 |
| N.-W. Frontier Province | 4,15,01 | 4,80,76 | 2,07,59 | 3,43,78 | 3,00,84 |
| Panjab | | | 2,15,95 | 2,13,51 | 2,55,13 |
| United Provinces | 1,34,00 | 1,63,20 | 1,64,75 | 1,70,52 | 1,64,75 |
| Bengal | 3,73,08 | 3,18,79 | 2,82,86 | 2,67,02 | 2,86,04 |
| Assam | 14,45 | 13,68 | 11,69 | 20,51 | 18,64 |
| Burma | 3,43,51 | 3,57,35 | 3,09,55 | 3,69,93 | 4,03,42 |

## Coasting Trade

The practice of adding the imports to the exports exaggerates the real value of the coasting trade, since the single transaction of carrying merchandise from one British Indian port to another appears first as an export and again as an import. But there is also a large trade with the ports in Native States and foreign settlements, which like foreign trade is registered only once at the British ports of departure or arrival. The net value of the coasting trade may therefore be determined by adding to the value of the imports into British ports from other British ports the sum of the imports and exports in the trade between British and non-British ports. The value so calculated is for merchandise 426 million ₹, this being 26 million ₹, or 6·5 per cent, greater than the value in 1903-04. Food grains, more than two-thirds being rice, were as usual by far the largest item, and though the movements were not on a large scale, there were increased exports of rice from Burma to Bombay and Madras, and from Bengal to the latter, as the crops in these two Presidencies suffered from partial failure of the monsoon. The recorded exports of rice from Burma to Indian ports was 301,000 tons, an increase of 106,000 tons over the exports of 1903-04, but the corresponding imports do not tally, there being an average deficiency of about 36,000 tons in the last two years in the arrivals at Madras ports. The exports of mineral oil from Burma increased from 38 million gallons in 1903-04 to 50 million gallons, Calcutta taking 45 millions and redistributing part of it by sea to other provinces, the re-exports to Madras being 3½ million, and to Sind over one million, gallons. The exports of gunny bags from Calcutta, mainly to Burma and Bombay, increased in value from 119½ to 160½ lakhs, representing about 64 million bags. Exports of Bengal coal rose by 282,000 tons to 1,786,000 tons, of which 822,100 tons went to Bombay and 286,000 tons to Sind. The trade in cotton piece goods manufactured in the Indian mills also showed marked improvement, the exports from the Bombay Presidency being 152 million yards, value 213 lakhs, an advance on the exports of 1903-04 of 33·5 per cent in quantity and 39·3 per cent in value.

J. A. ROBERTSON

*July 9, 1905*

# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

IN

# 1905-06.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN and SONS, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.,
and 32, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh;
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1906.

[Cd. 3272.] *Price 7d.*

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THE

# TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES

For the official year ending March 31, 1906.

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### CLIMATIC CONDITIONS OF THE YEAR.

Climatic conditions in India determine the volume of exportable produce and the capacity of the country to purchase imports. Some account of the character of the season is therefore indispensable to a comprehension of the general trade of the year. The size of the country forbids any attempt to treat it as a meteorological unit. For this reason the following paragraphs summarise the weather record in respect of each province :—

***Assam.***—The season in Lower Assam was favourable, but a very high flood in the Brahmaputra affected the jute crop in Goalpara and the Garo Hills.

***Eastern Bengal.***—The season opened unfavourably on the whole. Excessive rain accompanied by unusually high floods in September and October damaged the rice, jute, and sugar-cane crops. But later in the season want of rain affected the wheat and oilseeds crops in the northern districts.

***Bengal Proper.***—The rainfall was heavy and general in March to May, while June was a very dry month and the crop suffered from drought. The monsoon set in early in July. From the latter half of July till the end of September the rain was heavy and continuous in Behar and floods damaged the rice and indigo crops. The rainfall in October was generally light and there was practically none in November and up to January, when there was generally good rain in Bihar. In February unseasonable and exceptionally heavy rain accompanied by cloudy weather and, in places, by hailstorms injured the rabi crops, including oilseeds, and the rain in March unfavourably affected the outturn.

***United Provinces.***—The monsoon was late in arriving. Rain was sufficient in the first half of July, but in the latter half it was very deficient in the western divisions and Bundelkhand. The rainfall in August and September was light, affecting the indigo, sugar-cane, sesamum, and cotton crops. The months of October and November were entirely rainless. Though the light rain which fell in the second half of December and January did some little good to the oilseeds, the drought continued till the middle of February, when good general rain was received throughout the province. This rainfall helped the wheat crop, but it came too late to be of much use to the oilseeds.

***Punjab.***—There was deficient rainfall in July 1905. Two months' drought following the first fall of rain in the middle of July resulted in a general failure of the unirrigated crops in the Delhi Division and checked the development of the sugarcane already injured by frosts. The rainfall in September, though beneficial, came rather late to effect material improvement of sesamum. October and

November were dry as usual. The winter rains began early. The rainfall was heaviest in the west and north-west and light rain fell in the north later in the month of December. The conditions were favourable for wheat and oilseeds sowings, but the prolonged drought of January and early February gave the crops a serious check. Heavy and general rain received in the middle of February revived the crop, but it was followed by regular showers throughout March and dry clear weather in April and May.

***North-West Frontier Province.***—The monsoon rains were deficient, and the absence of moisture at sowing time retarded wheat and oilseeds sowings, which were, however, facilitated by excellent rain in the third week of December. January was partially rainless, except in Hazara ; but copious and well-distributed rain in February and March proved most beneficial throughout, while in April good showers ensured an unprecedented crop.

***Central Provinces and Berar.***—Although the usual October showers were wanting, heavy rain in the latter half of September advanced sowings of wheat at the usual time with fair success, but it was detrimental to the sowings of the late varieties of sesamum and caused some deterioration in those districts where the rain was followed by cold mists. Frost, hailstorms, and absence of seasonable winter rains did serious damage to linseed. In Berar, drought in mid-monsoon damaged the sesamum. The monsoon rain was also deficient, and the sowing season unfavourable for wheat. The cold weather rains came late, and though the earlier showers benefited the crop, the later showers did no good.

***Bombay.***—The favourable character of the early-sowings rain and the short rainfall of the season led to extended cotton cultivation. Through the deficiency of the late rains, both the sesamum and cotton crops suffered in Gujarat and Khandesh. Elsewhere in the Presidency the failure of the September rain entirely destroyed the crops in many places. In Gujarat the wheat crop fared fairly well in the north, but suffered through deficiency of moisture in the south. In the Deccan the crop was generally fair when the late rain fell or the crop was irrigated.

***Madras.***—The rainfall was seasonable for sesamum, rice, and sugarcane but the cotton crop suffered from want of rain.

***Burma.***—The rainfall was generally seasonable; but the early rains in Minbu and Sagaing were scanty, and in Chindwin and Myingyan the later rains were excessive.

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF TRADE.

In the following statement the value of the trade of the year 1905-06 is compared with the value of the trade of each of the preceding four years. The values are stated in rupees and exclude Government transactions both in merchandise and treasure :—

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Imports*— | | | | | |
| Merchandise | 81,51,89,794 | 78,78,79,084 | 84,82,32,930 | 96,67,82,884 | 103,06,58,826 |
| Gold | 8,29,76,205 | 13,14,66,553 | 20,13,11,752 | 21,81,19,745 | 14,74,29,715 |
| Silver | 11,35,07,591 | 12,10,90,721 | 11,81,20,869 | 11,21,55,553 | 6,17,83,175 |
| Total imports | 101,16,73,590 | 104,04,36,358 | 116,76,65,551 | 129,70,58,182 | 123,98,71,716 |
| *Exports*— | | | | | |
| Foreign merchandise re-exported | 3,25,98,163 | 2,93,56,132 | 3,32,55,087 | 3,37,25,945 | 3,52,68,622 |
| Indian merchandise | 121,20,50,631 | 125,87,97,516 | 149,63,40,735 | 154,12,79,999 | 158,18,12,307 |
| Gold | 3,36,64,788 | 3,67,73,923 | 3,80,26,776 | 3,69,85,896 | 5,29,09,830 |
| Silver | 5,09,60,877 | 5,13,26,185 | 4,34,66,954 | 4,27,79,760 | 1,15,87,739 |
| Total exports | 132,92,74,459 | 137,62,53,756 | 161,10,89,552 | 165,47,71,600 | 168,15,78,498 |

It will be observed that the grand total of imports and exports declined by one per cent or by 3 crores (£2 millions) compared with the trade of 1904-05. The decline was confined to imports which fell by about 6 crores (£4 millions) or 4·4 per cent, due entirely to the contraction in the imports of treasure, which, in the case of gold, receded by 7 crores (£4·67 millions) or 32·4 per cent and in the case of silver receded by about 5 crores (£3·33 millions) or 44·9 per cent. Omitting the imports and exports of treasure the grand total trade (merchandise only) advanced a further 4·2 per cent, imports having risen 6 crores (£4 millions) or 6·6 per cent and exports 4 crores (£2·67 millions) or 2·7 per cent.

The imports for home consumption, arrived at by deducting the re-exports from the imports, increased by 4·52 per cent while the exports of Indian merchandise rose by 2·6 per cent only. Two-thirds of the advance in imports was on account of cotton goods, the principal article of Indian trade. As is stated in that chapter of this Review which relates to imports of cotton goods, the rise was due to bumper cotton crops in America and Egypt and a marked development in India's purchasing power. As a corollary of India's larger imports of cotton goods her exports of the raw material rose by 22·4 per cent or 389·7 lakhs. The imports of cotton yarn and piece goods reached the unprecedented value of 40⅓ crores (£26·89 millions) compared with 36 crores (£24 millions) in 1904-05. Prices of piece goods ruled higher in 1905-06 than in the year previous and, had the quantities imported in the later year been paid for at the prices of the earlier, the value would have been 34 lakhs (£227,000) less than it was.

The other principal articles of import in which there were large advances were machinery and millwork and sugar. In the former the value increased from 4 to about 5 crores (£2·67 millions to £3·33 millions) and in the latter from 6·9 to 7·77 crores (£4·6 millions to £5·18 millions).

The rise in sugar was due solely to a larger consumption of that article and principally of beet the imports of which rose from 1·7 million cwts to 3·4 million cwts. Another single item that increased much in value and helped to swell the total rise was precious stones and pearls. In 1903-04 the value was a trifle more than 1½ crores, in 1904-05 it fell to 87¾ lakhs, and in the year under review it rose again to somewhat more than 1⅓ crores. But, as has been said more than once, the valuations are not at all reliable. The largest decrease was in mineral oils which declined from 3·32 to 2·23 crores, *i.e.*, a fall of over a crore. This was due entirely to a stronger demand for Burma and Assam Oil.

India is primarily an agricultural country, and the rise and fall of her exports depend almost entirely on the seasonal crops. If the seasons are favourable her exports in the following year are large, if unfavourable, exports decline. And this law is revealed in the figures of the export trade. The wheat, oilseeds (principally linseed and rape and mustard), and rice crops failed to a considerable extent in 1904-05 with the result that the exports of wheat in 1905-06 dwindled to less than half the exports in the previous year (from 18·6 crores or £12·4 millions to 9·2 crores or £6·13 millions), while in oilseeds there was a decline of 3·86 crores, and in rice of a crore. Notwithstanding the decline of over 13 crores (£8·67 millions) in these two articles alone the exports (Indian merchandise only) rose to 158 crores (£105·33 millions) in 1905-06 from 154 crores (£102·67 millions) in 1904-05. The articles that go to make up the net increase, and the rise in which more than compensates for the decline of 13 crores in wheat and oilseeds, are raw jute, the exports of which reached the unprecedented figure of 17 crores (£11·33 millions) compared

with 12 crores (£8 millions) in the year previous; raw cotton which attained to a value of 21⅓ crores, after having fallen in 1904-05 to 17·4 crores from 24⅓ crores in 1903-04; and raw hides and skins, cotton yarn, and jute bags, each of which rose from 2½ to 3 crores.

## IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

The value of the imports of merchandise continued its upward curve in 1905-06, and rose to ₹103·07 crores, an advance of 6·6 per cent or ₹638·8 lakhs over the value in 1904-05. Although the absolute increase in 1905-06 was only a little more than half the absolute increase in 1904-05 it is still remarkable, seeing that it followed a year in which the increase was a record one. The following statement compares the value of the imports in 1905-06 with the average annual value of imports in the five preceding quinquennial periods—

| | ₹ |
|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 | 50,63,14,322 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 | 1,19,76,500 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 | 68,47,03,563 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 69,89,38,183 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 | 83,61,72,309 |
| 1905-06 | 103,06,58,826 |

From the above figures it will be seen that India's import trade more than doubled in value in the last quarter of a century.

The value of each of the seven classes, in which articles are grouped in the trade accounts, was (in ₹):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Animals, living (mostly horses) | 44,49,407 | 53,62,833 | 59,27,625 | 49,41,452 |
| Articles of food and drink | 10,50,62,568 | 11,69,47,243 | 13,08,64,808 | 14,59,67,927 |
| Metals and manufactures of metal, hardware and cutlery, machinery and millwork, railway plant and rolling stock | 14,41,17,326 | 16,31,12,904 | 17,13,49,857 | 17,85,64,147 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, dyeing and tanning materials | 2,44,66,564 | 2,75,07,969 | 2,80,41,090 | 2,97,26,783 |
| Oils | 3,71,48,452 | 3,60,41,231 | 3,49,31,435 | 2,44,05,292 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles | 3,47,17,810 | 3,88,92,531 | 4,22,41,044 | 4,85,18,170 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 43,79,16,957 | 46,03,68,219 | 55,34,27,025 | 59,85,35,055 |

In five classes there was an increase and in two a falling away. Of the increase of ₹151·03 lakhs or 11·5 per cent in the second class, sugar accounted for about half. It rose to ₹777·4 lakhs in 1905-06 from ₹690·27 lakhs in 1904-05, equivalent to a rise of 12·6 per cent. Imports of wheat in 1904-05 were practically *nil* (only ₹432), while in 1905-06 they rose to ₹22·54 lakhs, ₹20·62 lakhs of which were imported in the last month of the year. Provisions rose from ₹216·58 lakhs to ₹239·26 lakhs. The increase in the third class is, as usual, principally due to the large rise in the imports of machinery, from ₹402·72 lakhs to ₹491·97 lakhs or 22·1 per cent. In the fourth class the increase was due to larger imports of chemicals, by ₹7½ lakhs, and of tobacco, by ₹10 lakhs. Precious stones and pearls, together with timber, more than account for the increase in the sixth class. In the last and principal class the increase of ₹451·08 lakhs, equivalent to 70·6 per cent of the total increase under all heads, is made up, to the extent of 55·4 per cent, by increased imports of textile manufactures, 88·3 per cent of which represents Britain's trade. The continued decline—more than ₹1 crore in 1905-06—in the fifth class (Oils) is due entirely to the ever-increasing demand for the indigenous mineral oils of Burma and Assam.

## ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.

The values in rupees during the last three years of the principal articles in this group have been:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sugar . . . | 5,93,57,739 | 6,90,27,319 | 7,77,63,882 |
| Provisions . . . | 2,02,72,805 | 2,16,57,985 | 2,39,26,159 |
| Liquors . . . | 1,82,73,143 | 1,87,39,733 | 2,01,78,642 |
| Spices . . . | 82,20,161 | 1,03,23,550 | 1,10,00,465 |
| Salt . . . . | 63,69,167 | 71,12,979 | 65,96,721 |
| Tea . . . . | 20,83,224 | 18,96,015 | 18,34,769 |

**Sugar.**—Sugar represents 53·3 per cent of the total value of the articles of Food and Drink imported into India, and retains the place which it assumed in 1904-05 as the second largest single article of importation.

Beet-sugar continues to rule the Indian sugar market; and the extraordinary vicissitudes of the trade during the past year cannot be better presented at a glance than by means of a statement showing the fluctuations in the monthly prices and arrivals.

| | | Beet | | | Cane | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Quantity | Value | Average Value | Quantity | Value | Average Value |
| | | Cwts | ₹ | ₹ | Cwts | ₹ | ₹ |
| April | 1905 . . | 90,201 | 11,90,706 | 13·2 | 154,041 | 19,82,172 | 12·9 |
| May | „ . . | 28,024 | 3,49,171 | 12·4 | 217,453 | 25,54,529 | 11·7 |
| June | „ . . | 84,592 | 9,83,727 | 11·6 | 133,382 | 15,25,993 | 11·4 |
| July | „ . . | 14,918 | 1,76,755 | 11·8 | 190,411 | 19,42,035 | 10·2 |
| August | „ . . | 4,429 | 30,075 | 6·8 | 499,016 | 53,09,775 | 10·6 |
| September | „ . . | 1,996 | 12,794 | 6·4 | 645,031 | 66,43,504 | 10·3 |
| October | „ . . | 18,941 | 1,99,359 | 10·5 | 950,691 | 95,97,896 | 10·1 |
| November | „ . . | 285,526 | 22,63,371 | 7·9 | 528,208 | 55,47,175 | 10·5 |
| December | „ . . | 497,980 | 45,04,439 | 9 | 225,704 | 20,18,462 | 8·9 |
| January | 1906 . . | 682,028 | 63,09,515 | 9·3 | 285,356 | 23,76,716 | 8·3 |
| February | „ . . | 626,934 | 58,67,954 | 9·3 | 208,224 | 18,04,916 | 8·6 |
| March | „ . . | 1,097,693 | 98,73,687 | 9 | 227,269 | 19,62,410 | 8·6 |
| | Total . | 3,433,262 | 3,17,61,553 | 9·2 | 4,264,786 | 4,32,65,583 | 10·1 |

At the beginning of the year the largest quantities came from Mauritius with Austria second, at 98,000 cwts and 90,000, respectively. In June the trade of Mauritius and Austria began to dwindle equally, and in July Java came to the front with 83,579 cwts. This lead it improved to 276,082 cwts in August, with Mauritius coming up at 187,766 cwts; and in September, Java did its best of the year at 438,742 cwts, with Mauritius second, while the total beet sugar from all countries fell to a total of 1,996 cwts. In October, Java fell back a little and Mauritius came up almost in line with it; but in November beet-sugar began to take the upper hand: Java withdrew, being in fact sold out. Mauritius kept its place for a few weeks with a total of 342,566 and Austria at 168,227, but in December Austria had risen to 381,248 and Mauritius had receded to 120,000. In these two months France sent to India considerable shipments which were understood to issue from speculative stocks in liquidation. In January, February, and March Austria has placed increasing quantities on the market, making a total of 1,562,528 cwts since the beginning of the calendar year, with Mauritius and Germany disputing the second place.

The previous financial year closed in March 1905 with the Bombay price at R13-15-0 per cwt and the European price of 88 per cent sugar at 13*s.* 3*d.* f.o.b. Hamburg. The highest point in recent years had been reached two months before that time when R14-5-0 was recorded in Bombay. These high levels were due to several causes. The abolition of the bounties in European

producing countries and the consequent reduction of the internal sugar taxes had led to a restriction of cultivation, and had induced such an expansion of domestic consumption as had not been foreseen. The crop season in Europe in 1904 had been characterised by widespread drought, and on the strength of it an extensive speculation arose. But the high prices attained brought their own cure, for they induced at once an increase of some 16 per cent in the acreage sown with beet in Europe, and also a resort on the part of consumers to reserve stocks of which the speculators had not had knowledge. After the opening of the financial year 1905-06 prices fell steadily, and they gave way completely about the month of July. Since July the decline has been practically continuous, and since the close of the calendar year the price in Bombay had stood practically steady at ₹9-14-0 per cwt. During certain months, when high prices prevailed, the quotations were really nominal. Some embarrassment has also been suffered by importers as a consequence of the agitation for the preference of indigenous products; but it remains to be seen how far that movement will prevail against the inducement offered by the present extraordinarily low price of beet-sugar.

The arrivals of beet and of cane-sugar in each of the last five years are shown in the following statement. The statement designates the countries from which the sugar was shipped to India, not those in which it was produced or refined. Until 1902-03 it was assumed, for statistical purposes, that the imports from the United Kingdom consisted of cane and beet-sugar in equal proportions. Since 1903-04 the division has been made in accordance with the declarations of origin; but the last three years have been too abnormal to admit of any deduction from them regarding the probable amount of error under the old system:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Beet*— | cwts | cwts | cwts | cwts | cwts |
| Austria-Hungary | 2,257,928 | 888,018 | 299,259 | 1,441,240 | 2,340,717 |
| Germany | 577,139 | 145,666 | 7,205 | 176,488 | 712,440 |
| United Kingdom | 94,151 | 157,398 | 51,865 | 50,452 | 177,682 |
| Other Countries | 6,993 | 266,435 | 194,408 | 48,308 | 201,565 |
| Total | 2,936,211 | 1,457,517 | 552,737 | 1,716,488 | 3,432,404 |
| *Cane*— | | | | | |
| Mauritius | 1,759,203 | 1,915,664 | 2,616,655 | 1,823,675 | 2,015,476 |
| China | 182,767 | 568,601 | 348,898 | 285,027 | 130,628 |
| Java | 446,686 | 573,666 | 1,335,548 | 2,091,508 | 1,685,391 |
| Straits | 63,056 | 207,937 | 229,993 | 211,040 | 150,868 |
| United Kingdom | 94,151 | 157,398 | 585,412 | 70,896 | 106,361 |
| Other Countries | 83,198 | 106,412 | 368,872 | 351,163 | 176,920 |
| Total | 2,629,061 | 3,529,678 | 5,485,378 | 4,833,309 | 4,265,644 |
| Total sugar, excluding molasses and confectionery | 5,565,272 | 4,987,195 | 6,038,115 | 6,549,797 | 7,698,048 |
| Value ₹ | 5,72,66,293 | 4,76,98,243 | 5,77,23,413 | 6,71,08,487 | 7,50,27,136 |

Java, which last year headed the list of contributors, has given way to Austria-Hungary, which now resumes the first place with a total exceeding even its record of 1901-02 by some 82,800 cwts. Mauritius, which in 1901-02 stood second, and in 1903-04 stood first, has resumed the second place with some 600,000 cwts less than in the latter year.

In his Budget statement, published in the Gazette of March 24th, 1906, the Hon'ble the Financial Member of Council reviewed certain of the statistics of the sugar trade in recent years with a view to determining what effects, if

any, had attended the impositions of additional duties to countervail the bounties of producing countries. That legislation was embodied in four Acts passed, respectively, in 1899, 1902, 1903, and 1904, the last two being little more than continuing enactments. He quoted the figures of the area under sugarcane in India in each year from 1890-91 to 1898-99; and, taken by themselves, these figures do not substantiate the allegations of greatly reduced cultivation on which the original plea for legislation was founded. On the other hand the contraction of sugar area which has taken place since the passing of the first Act is much more marked; and when the figures are taken in conjunction with those representing the increasing volume and diminishing cost of beet imports, they fully bear out the conclusion of the Finance Minister that the legislation and the provisions of the Sugar Convention to which it gave place have not achieved their object so far as India is concerned.

All the best-informed auguries portend a European beet crop not less than that of last year, unless indeed the abnormal climatic conditions reported from Europe should be maintained and be found to have caused injury.

**Provisions.**—The term "provisions" as applied to foreign merchandise covers a number of heads and several of these are of very comprehensive character though of relatively small amount. Dried fruits, for instance, which represent a value of R70·6 lakhs, and consist mainly of almonds, cover many other fruits imported in smaller quantities. The largest single item under Provisions is that of dates which now represent a total value of some R44·9 lakhs. The trade in salted fish continues to grow and reached a sum of R30·9 lakhs in 1905-06. The steady increase in the imports of foreign biscuits is an example of the acquisition of new tastes by the people of India. So far is the establishment of certain biscuit factories in India from having injured the import business that it has probably familiarised the purchasing public with an article formerly unknown and so extended the demand. The comprehensive category of "other sorts" amounted to R69 lakhs which represents a small decline, while the value of the whole class was R2·39 crores against R2·16 crores in 1904-05.

**Salt.**—The important points about Salt in India in recent years are the successive reductions of salt duty and the growth in consumption. These have been as follows:

| | Duty | | Consumption tons | Increase per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | British India excluding Burma | Burma | | |
| 1902-03 . . | R2-8 and R2 | R1 | 1,346,830 | 3·05 |
| 1903-04 . . | R2 | ,, | 1,381,344 | 2·56 |
| 1904-05 . . | R2 and R1-8 | ,, | 1,437,499 | 4·07 |
| 1905-06 . . | R1-8 | ,, | 1,496,186 | 4·08 |
| 1906-07 (2 months) | R1-8 | ,, | 347,010 | — |

The imports of salt also increased in each of the two years 1903-04 and 1904-05; but in neither of these did the figure reach the level attained in 1901-02 when 516,231 tons were imported. In 1905-06, however, there was a decline of about 4·3 per cent to 465,875 tons with a value of R65·92 lakhs. This was due, in great part to the political boycott of foreign goods. The price of Liverpool salt *ex* warehouse in Calcutta was R48 per 100 maunds (8,271 lbs) in April 1905, declined to R47 in May, hardened till it stood at R49 to R51 in July and August, then abruptly broke to R43 to 45 in September. Since that time it has gradually stiffened with little trade passing and stood at R53 at the close of the financial year.

**Liquors.**—These are divided into three groups, malt-liquors, spirits, and wines. In all three classes there was substantial progress in 1905-06.

In respect of **beer** a general resort to the lighter and cheaper descriptions is marked by the discrepancy between the rates of increase in respect of quantity on the one hand and of value on the other. In quantity the increase to 5,002,593 gallons was one of 8·6 per cent, but the rise in value amounted only to 4·2 per cent bringing the total to some ₹63 lakhs. This trend of trade also naturally brought with it a relative decline in the position of the United Kingdom as a source of supply, and it now furnishes only 91·2 per cent of the total while Germany contributes some 6·7 per cent and other foreign countries about 2·1 per cent.

But it must be borne in mind that these import figures do not represent the consumption of beer in India seeing that in 1905-06 Indian breweries produced 5,994,955 gallons, which is less by 224,806 gallons than in 1904-05 and less by 479,905 gallons than in 1902.

The same factor of indigenous production must be kept in view in respect of **spirits.** The following statement shows the totals in gallons of all spirits including liqueurs and methylated and perfumed spirits imported from the several principal countries:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom . | 784,981 | 772,350 | 855,049 |
| „ France . . | 220,208 | 252,815 | 281,399 |
| „ Germany . . | 218,607 | 195,579 | 209,478 |
| „ Other countries . | 213,934 | 253,054 | 315,051 |
| TOTAL . | 1,437,730 | 1,473,798 | 1,660,977 |

The quantities of spirits issued from Indian distilleries were 8,439,167 gallons in 1903-04 and 8,744,302 gallons in 1904-05.

The potable spirit imported from "other foreign countries" is chiefly arrack from Ceylon, rum from the Straits and gin from Holland.

The quantities of the principal descriptions of potable spirit imported were (in gallons):

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Whisky . . . . | 606,805 | 589,723 | 664,010 |
| Brandy . . . . | 363,359 | 372,723 | 406,569 |
| Gin . . . . | 78,897 | 76,131 | 79,049 |
| Rum . . . . | 66,766 | 70,609 | 84,619 |
| Other sorts . . . | 183,570 | 193,812 | 187,124 |
| TOTAL . | 1,299,397 | 1,302,998 | 1,421,371 |

In the *Gazette of India* of January 27th, 1906, Part IV, will be found the text of the Indian Tariff Amendment Act of 1906 which came into force on the 26th February 1906 and which raised the rates of import duty on ordinary spirits from ₹6 to ₹7 per imperial gallon and on liqueurs and perfumed spirits to a rate corresponding with that on ordinary spirits. The Hon'ble the Finance Minister in introducing the Bill explained that it was designed to place imported spirits on a par with native spirits in the matter of taxation.

For some years there has been a fairly constant decline in the value of **wines** imported; but in 1905-06 there has been a substantial recovery of some 7·1 per cent in quantity bringing the total to 342,135 gallons. The value on the other hand has risen by 13·6 per cent to some ₹29·75 lakhs which marks the converse of that decline in average value which was noticed in the case of beer.

**Spices.**—There has been a further increase of 2·2 per cent in the quantity of spices imported and an improvement of 5 per cent in the value which now

reaches ₹108 lakhs. Of this betelnuts represent ₹74·33 lakhs which is 4·2 per cent above the figure of 1904-05. The total quantity received amounts to some 47,191 tons. Of this total some 86·1 per cent are derived from Straits Settlements and 65·7 per cent are received at Calcutta, 20·9 per cent going to Madras. Of cloves from Zanzibar the total quantity imported was 3,132 tons with a value of ₹21·3 lakhs. This marks an increase of 17·5 per cent in quantity but only ₹2·64 lakhs in value seeing that the price fell away about 3 per cent from the high level attained in 1904-05.

**Tea.**—The imports of foreign tea—which includes tea from Ceylon—remain fairly constant. The quantity rose from 3,734,579 lbs to 3,799,225 lbs, while the value declined from ₹18·96 lakhs to ₹18·35 lakhs. This gradual decline in the specific value of the teas imported arises from the increasing predominance of Ceylon teas as against the dearer teas of China, and in this particular year from a common fall in price. The tea imported from Ceylon had an average value of 5·9 annas per lb, while that from China stood at 10·1 annas, with the effect that, while the total quantity of imported tea increased by 1·7 per cent, the total value decreased by 3·2 per cent. Ceylon tea increased from 1,612,608 lbs to 1,741,838 lbs or 8 per cent, while China tea showed an increase of 3·5 per cent to 1,379,067 lbs, green tea alone advancing by 5·5 per cent to 1,107,841 lbs. Estimates of re-exportation; more particularly by land, must be taken with some reserve; for on the inland routes the differentiation between foreign and Indian tea is probably imperfect. But if the figures be accepted as correct it would appear that a quantity of some 4,951,000 lbs of imported tea were retained by India, 782,000 lbs being re-exported by sea and 563,000 by land. This makes a total re-exportation of 1,345,000 lbs of which 63·2 per cent was black tea.

## METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS.

**Hardware and Cutlery.**—From the following statement it will appear that the imports of Hardware and Cutlery have declined by about 4·5 per cent:

| | 1903-04 ₹ | 1904-05 ₹ | 1905-06 ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cutlery | 12,55,499 | 14,95,436 | 14,05,068 |
| Agricultural Implements | 7,38,185 | 7,85,577 | 8,28,810 |
| Other implements and tools | 11,16,793 | 11,33,090 | 13,23,570 |
| Enamelled iron ware | 18,13,211 | 17,00,785 | 13,23,463 |
| Sewing machines | 10,08,458 | 10,06,625 | 10,86,045 |
| Unspecified hardware | 1,73,46,157 | 1,76,70,954 | 1,67,50,521 |
| TOTAL | 2,32,78,303 | 2,37,92,467 | 2,27,17,477 |

Of the total, the United Kingdom increased its percentage to 68·8 but showed an absolute falling off of about 1 lakh. Germany marked an absolute increase of about the same amount; but since Belgium showed a decline of some ₹98,000 it may be taken that a considerable part of these particular differences is due to greater accuracy in classification as to country of origin. It is probable however that a substantial quantity of the Hardware and Cutlery still ascribed to Belgium really emanates from Germany. The two countries together have increased their absolute share of the total by some ₹22,000 and now represent 19·4 per cent of the total as against 18·6 in the previous year. The most notable declines are in Austria-Hungary, which has fallen away to 5·6 per cent of the total, and in Russia, whose participation has almost ceased for the present. In enamelled ware Austria used to be supreme; but in 1905-06 her share has receded from 62 per cent to 40 per cent, while

Germany's has advanced from 31 per cent to 54 per cent. The total under "Unspecified Hardware" has been diminished by the new classification under which umbrella fittings imported for use in manufacture, with a value of ₹14·15 lakhs, are transferred to the heading "Umbrellas." Lampware, which has also been distinguished this year for the first time, is found to contribute ₹16·86 lakhs to the total of unspecified hardware, which now represents seven-tenths of the grand total.

**Metals.**—The imports of metals continued to increase, the quantity in 1905-06 having risen from 504,160 to 549,863 tons, while the total value declined from ₹931·9 lakhs to ₹904·6 lakhs. It is unusual to find in so large and composite an item a quantitative increase of 9 per cent accompanied by a decrease of 2·9 per cent in value; and the explanation is to be found both in the cheapening of the metals most largely used and the restriction of the imports of certain metals of relatively high specific value the prices of which have been exceptionally strong; as, for instance, copper in which the decline amounts to no less than ₹67·5 lakhs. This metal represented in 1905-06 only 15·8 per cent of the total value of metals imported, as against 22·6 per cent in 1904-05, while iron and steel have gone up from 65·8 per cent to 73·4 per cent of the total value.

**Copper.**—It will be remembered that in 1904-05 the imports of copper showed an incipient decline, doubtless on the satisfaction of the more urgent requirements and in response to the elevation of price. In the past twelve months this decline has become marked and has amounted to 36·5 per cent of the quantity and 32 per cent of the value. Both wrought and unwrought descriptions share in the decline. Unwrought fell to 22,661 cwts, or ₹12·66 lakhs, the contraction in quantity being one of 67·8 per cent, and in value 65·5 per cent. The average value was ₹55·8 per cwt. Wrought copper, which represents 91 per cent of the whole copper imports, fell 30·4 per cent in quantity and 25 per cent in value, the actual receipts amounting to 247,295 cwts with a value of ₹130 lakhs. The general contraction is a phenomenon of the extraordinarily high level of copper prices throughout the world. These prices at the close of the financial year ruled higher than at any time since 1888; but, whereas in that year the rise was operated by speculators in France, the present high levels may be accepted as due to a real industrial demand of exceptional intensity. The abnormal consumption of copper during recent years has depleted stocks; buyers have been working as far as possible from hand to mouth in expectation of a fall; and now the extraordinary activity of the engineering industries has carried prices to an extreme level.

**Iron and Steel.**—The year 1905-06 was one of exceptional activity and of improved prices in the iron and steel trades. The revival was first felt in America where business generally has been extraordinarily prosperous; and it gradually took effect in the United Kingdom and in India after midsummer, when the development of the engineering industries and the increase in shipbuilding intensified demand. The extent of the expansion during 1905 may be gauged by the following statistics of the production of pig-iron in the three principal producing countries:

| | 1904 Tons | 1905 Tons |
|---|---|---|
| United States . . . | 16,497,033 | 23,000,000 |
| Germany . . . . | 10,103,941 | 11,000,000 |
| United Kingdom . . | 8,562,658 | 9,200,000 |
| | 36,163,632 | 43,200,000 |

In the United Kingdom the average price of Cleveland warrants was 49*s.* 6*d.* in 1905 against 43*s.* 3*d.* in 1904.

In 1905-06 the price of Iron Bars on April 6th 1905 was ₹4-4-0 per cwt. It gradually declined to ₹3-14 at 20th July, rose to ₹4-7 at 22nd February 1906, and on 15th March stood at ₹4-4.

The following gives the total values of the Imports of Iron and of Steel distinctly and conjointly in each of the last five years :

| | Iron | Steel | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | ₹ | ₹ |
| 1901-02 . . . . | 2,90,32,539 | 1,96,06,657 | 4,86,39,196 |
| 1902-03 . . . | 3,03,04,888 | 2,05,60,343 | 5,08,65,231 |
| 1903-04 . . . | 3,38,07,892 | 2,62,10,257 | 6,00,18,149 |
| 1904-05 . . . | 3,78,51,121 | 2,34,03,379 | 6,12,54,500 |
| 1905-06 . . . | 3,41,08,736 | 3,23,45,509 | 6,64,54,245 |

It will be seen that while the total of Iron was exeeeded in 1904-05, the fall being one of 7·5 per cent, there has been an increase of 34·7 per cent in Steel.

This is in accord with the general trend of trade throughout the world ; and though the United Kingdom is dwarfed by the United States and by Germany in the production of Steel, the Board of Trade returns show that she imported of hematite pig iron 20·5 per cent more in 1905 than in 1904.

The monthly importations of Iron and of Steel, respectively, in 1905-06 compare as follows with the monthly averages for each of these metals during the previous two years.

| | Iron | | Steel | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Value | Percentage ratio to average monthly value of two previous years | Value | Percentage ratio to average monthly value of two previous years |
| Average monthly values of imports during 1903-04 and 1904-05 | 29,85,792 | | 23,22,870 | |
| Imports in | | | | |
| April 1905 . | 20,32,085 | 68·07 | 22,20,043 | 95·6 |
| May „ . | 24,06,009 | 80·6 | 29,60,432 | 127·4 |
| June „ . | 22,23,362 | 74·4 | 21,87,787 | 94·1 |
| July „ . | 23,63,372 | 79·1 | 26,51,178 | 114·1 |
| August „ . | 25,33,758 | 84·8 | 25,87,708 | 111·4 |
| September „ . | 22,99,061 | 77·01 | 21,69,687 | 93·4 |
| October „ . | 23,66,140 | 79·2 | 20,78,478 | 89·5 |
| November „ . | 35,26,458 | 118·1 | 26,62,104 | 114·6 |
| December „ . | 32,91,335 | 110·2 | 25,31,785 | 109 |
| January 1906 . | 42,08,487 | 140·9 | 31,00,346 | 133·5 |
| February „ . | 32,48,946 | 108·8 | 36,13,911 | 155·6 |
| March „ . | 36,09,723 | 120·9 | 35,82,050 | 154·2 |

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The year has seen the establishment of several combinations among producers of special grades of goods, as for example steel rails and galvanised sheets. The effect of the former was to raise the average price from £4·1 to about £6 while in the latter the enhancement was one of about £2·15 per ton. Imports of galvanised sheets into India in 1905-06 have decreased by 31·1 per cent, *i.e.*, to 13,45,143 cwts, with a value of ₹117·9 lakhs.

A calculation of the average value per cwt of Iron or Steel imported has only a limited value, for the descriptions of goods comprised under these heads

vary greatly and fluctuations in the relative quantities of the various descriptions affect the average value of the total as much as a general movement in the level of prices. Comparison, however, shows that in Iron there was a fall of average value by 2·5 per cent, *i.e.*, from ₹7-6-4 to ₹7-3-5 while in steel there was a rise of 2·64 per cent, *i.e.*, from ₹5-8-6 to ₹5-10-10 per cwt.

From the statement below it will be seen that there was an absolute contraction in the receipts from the United Kingdom which supplied only 53·9 per cent of the total quantity and 61·5 per cent of the total value as against 60·5 per cent and 67·6 per cent in 1904-5.

| | United Kingdom | | | Germany and Belgium | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Iron tons | Steel tons | Total tons | Iron tons | Steel tons | Total tons |
| Bars | 10,713 | 9,278 | 19,991 | 27,635 | 88,116 | 115,751 |
| Sheets and plates | 881 | 37,842 | 38,723 | 3,155 | 33,720 | 36,875 |
| „ „ galvanised | 66,953 | ... | 66,953 | 301 | ... | 301 |
| „ „ tinned | 17,862 | ... | 17,862 | 11 | ... | 11 |
| Hoop | 2,489 | 15,408 | 17,897 | 1,884 | 2,589 | 4,473 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod | 875 | ... | 875 | 4,783 | ... | 4,783 |
| Angle, channel, and spring | ... | 12,168 | 12,168 | ... | 10,718 | 10,718 |
| Beams, pillars, girders, and bridgework | 6,231 | 20,231 | 26,462 | 1,207 | 28,350 | 29,557 |
| Pipes and tubes | 23,337 | ... | 23,337 | 504 | ... | 504 |
| Nails, screws, rivets, and washers | 3,437 | ... | 3,437 | 6,767 | ... | 6,767 |
| Other sorts | 43,444 | 9,966 | 53,410 | 3,893 | 11,401 | 15,294 |
| Total for 1905-06 | 176,222 | 104,893 | 281,115 | 50,140 | 174,894 | 225,034 |
| Total for 1904-05 | 200,002 | 83,021 | 283,023 | 44,046 | 118,485 | 162,531 |

It will be observed also that while the United Kingdom improved her position absolutely in respect of steel alone, Germany and Belgium registered an advance in both departments. The tin plate trade has been subject to a good many disturbing influences in the past year, on the one hand the great rise in the price of tin, and on the other hand the enormously increased production of plates with accumulation of stocks. The imports of this class of goods fell away 5 per cent to a value of about ₹36·9 lakhs. A further decline in the value of pipes and tubes used in connection with the oil industry brought the total down to one of ₹38·2 lakhs.

**Lead.**—Imports of Lead have risen slightly to a value of about ₹19 lakhs, the average value having declined from ₹13-11-8 to ₹13-3-3 per cwt. The United Kingdom supplied sheets for tea chests to the value of ₹10·66 lakhs against ₹12·89 in the previous year, while the imports in this class from other countries rose from about ₹4,000 to ₹58,000; the average value was in the first case ₹16-4-11 per cwt and in the second ₹12-12-4.

**Tin.**—Tin is associated with copper in the constitution of materials used in certain industries that are now exceptionally active; and the two metals often share common vicissitudes of demand and price. This association received formal recognition from the circumstance that the two metals fell conjointly within the operations of the famous "secretan" group of 1888. It has recently been well marked in the course of the two trades not only throughout the world but in India in particular. Professor James Douglas in the American *Engineering and Mining Journal* recently showed that the demand for copper bears a fairly constant relation to the demand for pig iron. It would probably be equally easy to establish the existence of a relation between tin and copper; each of the

metals was formerly the subject of continual speculation; and it is possible that holders, like those of other commodities in abnormal demand, do nothing to minimise the conditions that make for the rise. But there is good reason to believe that those conditions have a very real existence. As in the case of copper so in the case of tin, the prices now ruling are the highest since 1888. And in each case it seems fairly clear that consumption has entirely outstripped production, but the conditions and their effects are more pronounced in the case of tin. The American *Journal of Commerce* of the 9th April quoted £174 per ton as having been recently paid in London as compared with £170 in 1888, and it hinted that the advance might proceed to £200. An article in the Times *Financial and Commercial Supplement* of 14th May reproduced most of the facts, figures, and opinions in the New York paper but added that on 12th May £204-10*s.* was actually paid. This represents an advance of over 110 per cent on the £97-10*s.* recorded at the end of 1901, and of about 51 per cent on the price of twelve months ago. Whereas the consumption in 1888 was only from 60,000 to 63,000 tons, in 1905 it was from 90,000 to 93,000 tons, and this in spite of great economies adopted in the methods of tinning and soldering. About half of the world's tin is derived from the Malay Archipelago; and practically the whole of India's imports during 1905-06 came from that source. But while the quantity imported in 1905-06 declined some 46 per cent, the value fell only 37·5 per cent, that is to say, from R39·4 lakhs to R24·9 lakhs.

**Machinery.**—The continuous growth in the importation of machinery is one of the most healthy features of Indian trade, and has been remarkable in the year 1905-06. In the three years before the cycle of bad seasons arrested the economic growth of the country the figures were as follows: 1894-95, R244·24 lakhs; 1895-96, R323·74 lakhs; 1896-97, R350·9 lakhs. This last figure remained the record till 1904-05, when R402·7 lakhs was attained. In 1905-06 this has been exceeded by no less than 22·2 per cent, which brings the total value to R491·97 lakhs, the net increase being R89·24 lakhs. The year has been exceptional, more especially in respect of the great activity in the textile industries; and although the installation of new cotton and jute plant is proceeding actively, it is doubtful whether the same rate of progress can be maintained in the current year. Bengal imported machinery to the value of R236 lakhs which is 20·6 per cent above the figure for 1904-05. Almost the whole of this increase of R40·27 lakhs is accounted for by the increase from R94·25 lakhs to nearly R125 lakhs in jute machinery, while in Bombay the increase is due to additions to plant in cotton mills. In Bombay the increase has exceeded that in Bengal and amounts to R54·5 lakhs or 44·9 per cent of the value for that port in 1904-05. The total value is R175·6 lakhs against R121 lakhs in the previous year. The extent to which the extraordinary activity of the year was, however, confined to the two main textile industries is emphasised by the fact that in the provinces other than Bengal and Bombay the value of machinery imported actually receded from R85·8 lakhs to R80·3, the fall being one of 6·4 per cent. The totals of the various classes of machinery imported into all India were as follows:

| | R |
|---|---|
| Steam-engines and parts | 1,02,82,000 |
| Textile | 2,46,32,000 |
| Electrical | 23,06,000 |
| Mining | 5,91,000 |
| Other descriptions | 1,13,86,000 |

**Railway Material.**—The expansion in the imports of Railway material (State and private) has been fairly continuous in the last four years. In 1902-03 these imports represented ₹536 lakhs, in 1903-04 they rose to ₹563·7 lakhs, in 1904-05 there was a slight drop to ₹561·5 lakhs, but in 1905-06 this was more than made good by a rise to ₹673·73 lakhs. These figures include rolling stock and comprise imports for private lines (₹162·2 lakhs) and for State Railways (₹511·5 lakhs). In official returns imports for State Railways are kept distinct from the movements of private trade; and under these conditions such modification of the figures as necessarily attends the progressive acquisition of lines by the State might well give an impression that the quantity of Railway material imported was diminishing.

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES, NARCOTICS, DYEING, AND TANNING MATERIALS.

**Chemicals.**—The value of the imports of chemicals increased from ₹61·3 lakhs to ₹68·9 lakhs. The heading "Chemicals for paper making" which represented ₹7·74 lakhs in 1904-05 has been abolished, and the following new sub-heads have been introduced. *Bleaching materials*, ₹2·21 lakhs; *Calcium carbide*, ₹1 lakh; *Cyanide of potassium*, ₹2·25 lakhs; *Disinfectants* ₹2·11 lakhs; *Soda, caustic*, ₹5·46 lakhs; *Soda, other sorts*, ₹92,000. This last head does not include *Bicarbonate of soda* which has long been shown separately and which amounted to ₹3·99 lakhs.

The class "*Other sorts*" which has been considerably reduced by the creation of the new sub-heads, still represents some 58 per cent of the total.

**Drugs and Medicines.**—The imports of Drugs and Medicines, which represented ₹70·74 lakhs in 1904-05, fell back in 1905-06 to ₹67·57 lakhs or slightly less than the figure at which they stood in 1903-04. **Camphor** was received to a total value of ₹13·38 lakhs as compared with ₹16·17 lakhs in the previous year. This represents a decline of 17 per cent in value as against a quantitive decline of 40 per cent; so that the average value per lb which rose 17 per cent in 1904-05 rose by a further 37 per cent in 1905-06. On the other hand, the average value of quinine declined as much as 55 per cent, with the effect that the imports while showing an increase of 112·6 per cent in quantity marked a fall of 5·5 per cent in value to ₹6·5 lakhs. "Proprietary and Patent medicines" are now distinguished from "Other sorts" for the first time and show a value of ₹12·54 lakhs. Other sorts represent ₹24·79 lakhs only, but this figure in combination with that for Proprietary and Patent medicines marks an advance on 1904-05.

**Tobacco.**—The increase in the importation of cigarettes of the cheaper descriptions is maintained, and that importation continues to be the only progressive feature of the tobacco trade. Ten years ago the imported cigarette was scarcely known to the native community. In 1905-06, in spite of an agitation for preference of the indigenous article, the imports represented some 3,119,047 lbs or about 1,040 million cigarettes, while the value amounted to ₹45 lakhs. This marks an increase of 23·8 per cent on the large total quantity recorded in 1904-05, and of 167·6 per cent in the course of the six years since the article was first distinguished statistically. Of the total of ₹45 lakhs, ₹28·25 lakhs came from the United Kingdom, ₹11·4 lakhs from the United States, ₹1·5 lakhs from Japan, Straits Settlements, and the Treaty Ports of

China, and only R3·13 lakhs from Egypt. This last represents the best qualities and the only class of cigarette in which a contraction had taken place. The average value per lb from each of the sources was: British, R1-8-10; American, R1-1-6; Egyptian, R6-4-3; and Eastern 13 annas, the value per 1,000 being roughly three times the value per lb.

The total value of imported tobacco increased by 18 per cent to R65·98 lakhs.

**Dyes.**—There was a slight recovery in the importation of **aniline** and **alizarine dyes** which increased from 10,705,077 lbs, with a value of R71·45 lakhs, to 11,604,284 lbs with a value of R75·70 lakhs. These figures represent a rise of 8·4 per cent in quantity and 5·9 per cent in value, the average value per lb having declined from 10 annas 8 pies to 10 annas 5 pies or 2·3 per cent lower. These products are of course derived mainly from Germany where, during 1905, they became the subjects of various combinations among the chief manufacturers. One group was formed by the Badische Anilin Fabrik, Messrs. Friedr. Bayer and Company, and the Aniline Manufacturing Company. A second consists of Messrs. Meister, Lucius and Bruning and Messrs. Casella and Company; while perhaps the most important in its bearings on India is that of the Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik with Messrs. Meisters, Lucius and Bruning for fixing the price of synthetic indigo and terminating the acute competition that has hitherto prevailed. Bombay continues to be the principal port of entry, about 80 per cent of the imports being received there. Of **alizarine** the imports increased from 5,875,708 lbs with a value of R30·53 lakhs to 6,297,577 lbs with a value of R32 lakhs, the average value declining from As. 8 p. 4 to As. 8 p. 2 per lb.

## OILS.

**Mineral Oil.**—The total value of all mineral oils imported in 1905-06 was R222·9 lakhs or 32 per cent less than in 1904-05. Of this total R178·3 lakhs or just 80 per cent related to kerosene.

The trade in kerosene has entered on a new phase in 1905-06 as a consequence of the arrangement made between those companies that have hitherto contended for the Eastern markets. It is well therefore to review the imports of the past ten years; and in the interest of brevity this must be done tabularly. The first of the following statements shows the quantities in thousands of gallons received from each principal source in each year. The second statement shows the value of imports in thousands of rupees.

### I.—QUANTITIES.

| | 1896-97 | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-93 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Russia | 45,484 | 50,634 | 50,800 | 57,688 | 67,351 | 84,478 | 71,125 | 57,320 | 40,304 | 7,617 |
| United States | 18,202 | 23,985 | 21,006 | 12,732 | 5,102 | 5,768 | 9,229 | 6,722 | 7,477 | 22,332 |
| Borneo | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,372 | 9,281 | 5,193 |
| Straits Settlements | 164 | 597 | 323 | 42 | 143 | 1,023 | 522 | 3,783 | 11,969 | 10,391 |
| Sumatra | 558 | 7,541 | 4,444 | ... | ... | ... | 286 | 1,348 | 5,943 | 5,401 |
| Other Foreign Countries | 63 | 38 | 52 | 8 | 6 | 198 | 289 | 14 | 1,216 | 15 |
| Total Foreign Countries | 64,471 | 82,795 | 76,625 | 70,470 | 72,602 | 91,467 | 81,451 | 71,559 | 76,190 | 50,949 |
| Coastwise from Burma | 40 | 1,709 | 2,308 | 4,966 | 8,269 | 13,463 | 17,450 | 35,206 | 42,729 | 47,160 |

## II.—VALUES.

| | 1896-97 | 1897-98 | 1898-99 | 1899-1900 | 1900-01 | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Russia | 1,97,72 | 2,05,81 | 1,99,90 | 2,34,71 | 2,80,52 | 3,14,80 | 2,63,71 | 2,38,78 | 1,62,50 | 26,50 |
| United States | 84,38 | 97,66 | 83,55 | 58,98 | 28,77 | 32,-8 | 47,45 | 41,05 | 46,34 | 95,89 |
| Borneo | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,90 | 28,74 | 13,17 |
| Straits Settlements | 1,00 | 3,18 | 1,49 | 25 | 1,01 | 3,93 | 1,72 | 14,11 | 35,75 | 26,56 |
| Sumatra | 2,54 | 32,90 | 13,44 | ... | ... | ... | 71 | 4,62 | 18,71 | 16,08 |
| Other Foreign Countries | 30 | 23 | 21 | 6 | 4 | 66 | 1,02 | 12 | 5,52 | 12 |
| Total Foreign Countries | 2,85,94 | 3,39,78 | 2,98,59 | 2,94,00 | 3,10,34 | 3,51,57 | 3,14,61 | 3,07,58 | 2,97,56 | 1,78,32 |
| Coastwise from Burma | 15 | 6,59 | 9,07 | 21,46 | 33,53 | 52,22 | 69,51 | 1,38,20 | 1,71,26 | 1,62,34 |

The following figures may be accepted as an approximate estimate of the Burma production in the same period:

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1896 . 14,808,195 gallons | 1899 . 32,309,351 gallons | 1902 . 54,848,980 gallons | 1904 . 115,903,804 gallons. |
| 1897 . 18,875,530 „ | 1900 . 36,974,288 „ | 1903 . 85,328,491 „ | 1905 . 142,063,846 „ |
| 1898 . 21,684,963 „ | 1901 . 49,441,734 „ | | |

The equivalent of kerosene to crude oil is about 50 to 115·9, or 43·2 per cent nearly.

The prices of kerosene in Calcutta have ranged as follows:

| | AMERICAN | RUSSIAN | | | BURMA | | BORNEO | SUMATRA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Chester per case | Rising Sun per case | Anchor per case | Ram per case | Victoria, per 2 tins | Gold Mohar, per 2 tins | Cobra, per 2 tins | Silver light per case |
| | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. |
| Average 1896-97 | 4 3 3 | ... | 3 15 11 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Do. 1897-98 | 3 9 0 | ... | 3 8 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Do. 1898-99 | 3 5 2 | 3 5 0 | 3 1 2 | ... | 3 1 5 | ... | ... | ... |
| Do. 1899-1900 | 4 2 5 | 3 10 10 | 3 7 9 | .. | 3 6 0 | ... | ... | ... |
| Do. 1900-01 | 4 6 7 | 4 0 11 | ... | ... | 3 11 5 | ... | ... | ... |
| Do. 1901-02 | 3 15 6 | 3 2 1 | 3 1 11 | ... | 2 14 2 | ... | ... | ... |
| Do. 1902-03 | 3 10 10 | 3 5 5 | 3 5 5 | 3 6 4 | 3 0 11 | ... | ... | ... |
| Do. 1903-04 | 4 2 4 | 3 9 4 | 3 6 11 | 3 7 7 | 3 1 4 | ... | 3 3 8 | ... |
| Do. 1904-05 | 4 0 11 | 3 7 0 | 3 7 0 | 3 6 11 | 2 12 5 | 2 15 0 | 2 14 3 | 4 7 10 |
| Prices in 1905-06— | | | | | | | | |
| April 1905 | 4 0 0 | 3 5 6 | 3 5 6 | 3 5 6 | 2 6 0 | 2 8 0 | 2 5 6 | 5 6 0 |
| May „ | 4 0 6 | 3 3 6 | 3 3 6 | 3 1 9 | 2 8 0 | 2 11 0 | 2 8 6 | 5 6 0 |
| June „ | 4 0 0 | 3 3 6 | 3 3 0 | 3 5 9 | 2 6 6 | 2 9 6 | 2 7 0 | 5 4 0 |
| July „ | 4 0 0 | 3 3 6 | 3 3 0 | 3 8 0 | 2 5 6 | 2 7 6 | 2 5 0 | 5 4 0 |
| August „ | 4 0 0 | 3 3 6 | 3 3 0 | 3 6 0 | 2 5 0 | 2 7 0 | 2 5 0 | 5 0 0 |
| September „ | 4 0 0 | 3 4 6 | 3 3 0 | 3 7 0 | 2 5 0 | 2 7 6 | 2 5 0 | 4 8 0 |
| October „ | 4 0 0 | 3 6 0 | 3 3 0 | 3 8 0 | 2 6 0 | 2 9 0 | 2 6 0 | 4 8 0 |
| November „ | 4 6 0 | 4 2 0 | 4 2 0 | 4 2 0 | 3 0 0 | 3 4 0 | 3 0 0 | 4 8 0 |
| December „ | 4 6 0 | 4 2 0 | 3 2 0 | 8 13 0 | 3 4 0 | 3 7 0 | 3 4 0 | 4 8 0 |
| January 1906 | 4 6 0 | 4 4 0 | ... | 3 14 0 | 3 4 0 | 3 8 0 | 3 5 0 | 4 8 0 |
| February „ | 4 6 0 | 4 4 0 | ... | 3 14 0 | 3 4 0 | 3 8 0 | 3 5 0 | 4 12 0 |
| March „ | 4 9 0 | 4 4 0 | ... | 3 14 0 | 3 4 0 | 3 8 0 | 3 5 0 | 4 12 0 |
| Average „ | 4 2 9 | 3 10 6 | 3 6 8 | 3 9 7 | 2 11 5 | 2 14 6 | 2 11 9 | 4 13 8 |

It will be seen that in 1905-06 the imports of foreign kerosene declined by 33 per cent in quantity and 40 per cent in value. On the other hand, the shipments from Burma to India proper increased by 10 per cent in both respects.

The decline of imports amounted to 21 million gallons in the case of Russia and 6 millions in the case of Sumatra and Borneo, while an increase of 13 millions occurred in the arrivals from America. Case oil continues to give place to bulk oil importation, and more than half of the above decline in total imports is to be traced to the falling off of 11½ million gallons in arrivals of case oil from Russia alone (this being due to the destruction and anarchy that prevailed in the Russian oil region) an increase of 1½ million from America being offset by a loss of similar amount in the arrivals from Italy.

The prices of American Chester oil, the standard illuminant, have been very steady, taken over a period of ten years. The average price per case in 1896-97 was R4-3-3 and in the year under review R4-2-9½. The monthly averages, however, show considerable fluctuations, the highest being R4-10-0 in March 1906, and the lowest R4 in April, June, July, August, September and October 1905.

In imports of other mineral oils, mainly for lubricating, there was an increase from 7,441,100 to 10,157,326 gallons, while a further 3,520,316 gallons were received from Burma.

The imports of fuel oil, this year distinguished for the first time, amounted to 716,306 gallons with a value of R90,201. This description was formerly included under the heading "other kinds of mineral oils." The chief sources are Borneo and, as *entrepôt*, the Straits Settlements. The receipts in Bombay fell from 727,370 gallons to 436,774 gallons, while 613,007 gallons were received at Karachi.

## RAW MATERIALS

**Coal.**—The decline in the importation of foreign coal continues as the Indian production increases, and the trade is now governed largely by considerations of freight obtainable on the return journey. The quantity of private imports, which under exceptional conditions showed a considerable rise in 1904-05, has gone back from 252,000 tons to the level at which it stood in 1903-04, namely 180,000 tons; but the value of R32·12 lakhs falls short of the earlier year's figure by some 4·9 per cent. The contribution of the United Kingdom declined from 177,100 tons to 137,700 tons with a value of R26 lakhs; while Japan sent only 27,862 tons with a value of R3·8 lakhs or about half of the quantity she supplied in 1904-05. The remaining 14,300 tons came mainly from Australia, Ceylon, China, and Italy. Imports of British coal by Government amounted to only 6,976 tons with a value of R1·18 lakhs. For particulars as to the production of Indian coal reference should be made to the chapter relating to Exports of coal.

**Silk.**—The crops in France, Hungary, and the Levant were good, and with the heavy stocks from the 1904 campaign silk prices in April 1905 were low. But towards September they rose greatly as a result of bad reports from Italy and Japan and a revival of demand in America and Russia. On the average, prices were perceptibly higher than in 1904. The imports into India receded from 1,858,700 lbs with a value of R73·41 lakhs, which had marked a rise of 24 per cent on the figures of the previous year, to 1,645,700 lbs with a value of R71·19 lakhs. The fall in total value was, therefore, one of 3 per cent, although the average value rose by 9·4 per cent, that is to say, from R3-15-3 to R4-5-2 per lb. Of the above total of R71·19 lakhs, Bombay took R57·9 lakhs and Burma

R13·1 lakhs. Direct imports from China, at 1,356,912 lbs, were short of the previous year's figures by 107,489 lbs or 7·3 per cent; and those from the Straits Settlements, at 180,747 lbs, showed a decline of 46·9 per cent.

**The Imports of Cotton** in 1905-06 declined from 192,554 cwts to 161,476 cwts; but when it is remembered that two years ago the quantity imported was only 18,279 cwts this need occasion no surprise. The value in the year under review receded from R63·8 lakhs to R54 lakhs, so that the decline was one of 16·1 per cent in quantity and 15·4 per cent in value, the average value of the imports having decreased by 1 per cent. Foreign cottons are used mainly for spinning counts higher than the Indian staple lends itself to; and the strong demand for coarse yarns throughout India and the East enabled Indian manufacturers to dispense with the imported article at the relatively high prices asked. For American Middling these ranged from 3·81*d.* to 6·4*d.* per lb with an average of 5·09*d.* in 1905, as against 3·63*d.* to 8·7*d.* with an average of 6·6*d.* in 1904: while Egyptian (good, fair, brown) ranged from 6·25*d.* to 8*d.* with an average of 7·13*d.* for 1905, against 6·75*d.* to 10·06*d.* with an average of 8*d.* in 1904. About 94·7 per cent of the total quantity imported is American shipped mainly from the United Kingdom with smaller quantities from the United States and Germany. The slight increase of imports from Persia which now amount to 1,708 cwts is interesting, and favourable reports have been received regarding its qualities.

**The Imports of precious stones and pearls, unset,** as recorded in the trade accounts, probably bear no very close relation to the true imports. It is well known that large quantities of pearls are both imported and exported by post in such a way as to escape record. The values under the heading of precious stones fluctuate very greatly. Whereas in 1904-05 the total dropped by 42·3 per cent to R87·76 lakhs, it has risen in 1905-06 by nearly 53 per cent to R134·14 lakhs. Nearly half the increase arose in pearls from Muscat and the Persian Gulf. These advanced from R45 lakhs to R68 lakhs, which is 23·6 per cent more than the average of the last five years; and the shipments from Arabia alone, which represented R62 lakhs of the total, rose by 55 per cent. There was also a large increase in the imports of jewels from the United Kingdom; and their value advanced by nearly 121 per cent, that is to say from R22·25 lakhs to R49·15 lakhs. In the case of France, however, there was a continuanc e of the decline marked in the previous year, and her total shrank to R8·88 lakhs.

**Timber.**—The trade in timber has risen from R58·74 lakhs in 1904-05 to R82·67 lakhs in 1905-06, the increase being one of 40·7 per cent and following an increase of 37 per cent in the previous year. Of the total imports, R61·43 lakhs or 74·3 per cent represented the value of teak. Of this, R52·42 lakhs —or five-sixths—came from Siam which is taking the place of Burma teak. The quantity of teak imported in 1905-06 was 70,764 cubic tons compared with 46,915 cubic tons in 1904-05, representing an increase of 50·8 per cent. The average price of teak therefore fell 4·1 per cent, from R90·5 to R86·8 per cubic ton. The imports from the Straits Settlements have also increased considerably: in 1904-05 they were 149 cubic tons, valued at R9,781, while in 1905-06 they rose to 4,764 cubic tons, valued at R4,30,763. The trade in timber other than teak has also increased, though not in the same proportion. In 1904-05 the quantity was 28,380 cubic tons, valued at R15·68 lakhs, and in 1905-06 it rose to 37,744 cubic tons, valued at R20·04 lakhs. The largest increase was in the case of the United States the imports from which rose from 2,961 cubic tons, valued at R1,34,910, in 1904-05 to 8,869 cubic tons, valued at R3,25,436.

## MANUFACTURED ARTICLES

**The Imports of Cotton goods** in 1905-06 were on an unprecedented scale, and reflected the general activity of the textile industry except in Russia. The attenuation of stocks in China, the establishment of peace in the Further East, and a marked development in the purchasing power of India coincided with greatly increased production of the raw material in America and Egypt and a return of prices to more advantageous levels. In this connection reference may be made to particulars given in those sections of this Review which relate to imports and exports of raw cotton.

The aggregate value of the imports of cotton yarn and of woven and other cotton goods in the last five years (stated in millions of Rupees) has been:

| | Yarns | Woven and other goods | Total | Proportion to total imports of merchandise |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 | 26·47 | 302·48 | 328·95 | 40 per cent |
| 1902-03 | 22·97 | 281·49 | 304·46 | 39 „ |
| 1903-04 | 21·42 | 288·69 | 310·11 | 37 „ |
| 1904-05 | 24·88 | 355·59 | 380·47 | 39 „ |
| 1905-06 | 34·25 | 390·18 | 424·43 | 41 „ |

The increase in total value of cotton goods was thus 11·6 per cent or ₹43·96 millions.

In **yarns** the increase of value was ₹9·37 millions or 37·7 per cent; while in quantity the increase, as will be seen below, amounted to 15,201,000 lbs or 49·7 per cent, the decline in specific value thus being one of 7·99 per cent:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 | 34·8 lbs | 1903-04 | 28·0 lbs |
| 1901-02 | 38·3 „ | 1904-05 | 30·58 „ |
| 1902-03 | 33·7 „ | 1905-06 | 45·78 „ |

Yarns from the United Kingdom, which represent 93·5 per cent of the whole, increased from 28,021,000 lbs to 42,801,000 lbs, the rise being one of 52·7 per cent; and, since the British exports of yarn in 1905 showed an advance of 25·7 per cent on those of 1904, it may be considered that India took her full share. The imports of dyed and of undyed yarn continue to be of nearly equal value. Of the former, with a total of 23,000,000 lbs, about 89 per cent is of British origin, while Italy increased her contribution to 1,000,000 lbs and Austria-Hungary receded to about 600,000 lbs. The imports of 40s mule increased from 6,349,000 lbs with a value of ₹43·55 lakhs to 10,673,000 lbs with a value of ₹68·26 lakhs.

### IMPORTED YARN

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 25 | 4,380,483 | 2,524,081 | 3,475,714 |
| „ 26 to 40 | 16,588,042 | 19,995,875 | 33,696,627 |
| Above 40 | 4,822,593 | 5,041,582 | 5,821,636 |
| TOTAL | 25,791,118 | 27,561,538 | 42,993,977 |

### INDIAN YARN

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 25 | 536,856,691 | 531,444,743 | 634,688,020 |
| „ 26 to 40 | 40,960,069 | 45,658,619 | 45,091,084 |
| Above 40 | 942,315 | 1,277,913 | 1,139,477 |
| TOTAL | 578,759,075 | 578,381,275 | 680,918,581 |

It is well to compare the imports of coarse, medium, and fine yarns as given above with the production of similar yarns by Indian mills. In doing so it should be noted that the local manufacturers have increased their output by 17·73 per cent; but whereas they hold the market for counts 1 to 25 and foreign countries make no progress in that class, so the strong demand for indigenous low count yarns monopolises the Indian spinners' energies and all the expansion in the better classes of goods is represented by imports.

**The Imports of Cotton Fabrics** increased in value from ₹35,55,92,000 to ₹39,01,77,000 which represents 37·9 per cent of the total imports of private merchandise. The increase is one of 9·7 per cent, bringing the total increase in two years to 35 per cent. Some descriptions of cotton goods are not stated in yards. It is, therefore, convenient in ascertaining the change of specific value to confine the calculation to piece-goods. In this last class the imports reached the entirely unprecedented level of 2,463·24 million yards with a value of ₹3,695·35 lakhs. The increase was 174·85 million yards or 7·6 per cent in quantity, and ₹321·87 lakhs or 9·5 per cent in value; the specific value being therefore 1·35 per cent higher, assuming that the quantitative relations of the various classes remained approximately constant. The specific value of grey goods in fact rose by 3·7 per cent; that of white goods advanced by 5·7 per cent, while coloured goods declined by 4·3 per cent.

The following statement shows in millions of yards the relative importance of these three classes in the course of the last sixteen years; and it will be noted that whereas, during the period exhibited, the demand for grey goods did not keep pace with the development in white and coloured goods, the former contributed by far the greater part of the increase in 1905-06:

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured printed, or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1889-90 to 1893-94 | 1,223·47 | 368·63 | 374·17 | 62 |
| Average, 1894-95 to 1898-99 | 1,209·77 | 418·59 | 351·49 | 61 |
| Average, 1899-1900 to 1903-04 | 1,204·53 | 369·69 | 430·57 | 57 |
| 1904-05 | 1,210·16 | 584·3 | 493·92 | 53 |
| 1905-06 | 1,348·84 | 572·75 | 541·65 | 54·8 |

The advance in that department was 11·4 per cent, coloured goods following with 9·7 per cent, while bleached goods showed a decline of nearly 2 per cent. Considering the large contributions now made by the Indian mills to the supply of grey goods, their unprecedented activity in that particular line in the year under report and the revival in the hand-loom industry whose output is believed to be double that of the Indian mills, the increase in the imports of these textiles most largely used by the poorer classes must be regarded as a mark of prosperity among the masses. It is noticeable that Bengal, where there are two cotton-weaving mills, took 998,408,333 yards or ·74 per cent of the total of imported grey goods in 1905-06.

The principal descriptions of imported goods belonging to the three classes are shown in the following statement in millions of yards:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *1. Shirtings:* | | | |
| Grey | 466·06 | 517·64 | 605·79 |
| White | 65·35 | 129·02 | 109·62 |
| Coloured | 65·19 | 63·19 | 80.41 |

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *2. Chadars, dhutis, sáris, and scarves :* | | | |
| Grey | 454·58 | 529·72 | 565·77 |
| White | 54·65 | 56·56 | 59·08 |
| Coloured | 67·12 | 64·58 | 73·51 |
| *3. Jaconets :* | | | |
| Grey | 93·34 | 85·58 | 103·05 |
| White | 18 | 30·7 | 24·9 |
| Coloured | 5·02 | 4·36 | 5·35 |
| *4. Mulls :* | | | |
| Grey | 25·16 | 27·46 | 17·52 |
| White | 102·11 | 134·89 | 103·71 |
| Coloured | 1·96 | 3·13 | 1·88 |
| *5. Drills, jeans, sheetings :* | | | |
| Grey | 20·87 | 18·77 | 28·39 |
| White (drills and jeans) | 4·18 | 7·79 | 9·4 |
| Coloured (drills) | 5·63 | 5·09 | 7·34 |
| *6. Unspecified descriptions :* | | | |
| Grey | ·33 | ·56 | ·45 |
| White | 17·93 | 22 | 17·22 |
| Coloured | 93·54 | 105·55 | 109·12 |

The principal advances are in grey shirtings, dhutis, and jaconets. In mulls there is a slight contraction. The following statement shows, in millions of yards, other descriptions which are imported in considerable quantities. The only really noticeable gain is in white nainsooks which showed a decline in the previous year. This alternation of advance and decline in individual years is familiar in trade statistics :

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Grey :* | | | |
| Madapollams | 12·1 | 17·94 | 18·85 |
| T-cloths and domestics | 12·29 | 12 | 8·8 |
| Printers | ·38 | ·49 | ·22 |
| *White :* | | | |
| Nainsooks | 181·85 | 177·23 | 229·13 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins, lawns | 14·15 | 16·5 | 11·39 |
| Checks, spots, stripes | 6·49 | 7·56 | 5·42 |
| Long cloths | 1·61 | 2·05 | 2·88 |
| *Coloured :* | | | |
| Prints and chintz | 171·28 | 181·55 | 184·88 |
| Cambrics, twills, muslins | 71·52 | 66·46 | 79·16 |

The production of the Indian weaving mills consists chiefly of unbleached shirtings, dhutis, T-cloths, domestics, and chadars, and it increased by 5,100,000 lbs or 3 per cent. The yardage, which is stated only for bleached or unbleached goods but not for coloured or figured, increased by 15,200,000 yards, the total for this class being 562,900,000 yards and the weight 133,700,000 lbs. out of a total of 163,900,000 lbs. for all classes of woven goods.

The extent to which the cotton piecegoods of the three main classes are derived from the United Kingdom is indicated below in millions of yards :

| | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | from United Kingdom | Total | from United Kingdom | Total | from United Kingdom |
| Unbleached goods | 1,085·11 | 1,077·22 | 1,210·16 | 1,205·19 | 1,348·83 | 1,337·01 |
| Bleached „ | 466·34 | 458·36 | 584·3 | 574·51 | 572·75 | 561·85 |
| Coloured „ | 481·27 | 461·68 | 493·92 | 471·53 | 541·65 | 516·32 |

Britain therefore supplies 99·12 per cent of the grey goods, 98·09 per cent of the bleached goods and 95·32 per cent of the coloured goods.

Besides these there are certain subsidiary classes of goods imported, the principal descriptions and the value of the trade, in thousands of Rupees, being:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece | 26,29 | 25,00 | 34,96 |
| Hosiery | 50,19 | 67,45 | 63,02 |
| Sewing thread | 21,99 | 22,78 | 25,61 |
| Other manufactures | 41,84 | 67,20 | 82,82 |

The progress in this department thus amounted to ₹24 lakhs or 13·2 per cent on the figures of the previous year. The United Kingdom supplies 88·5 per cent of the handkerchiefs and shawls, and 85·7 per cent of the sewing thread. But of the total it does only 45 per cent, seeing that the considerable class of hosiery is practically absorbed by Japan, Italy, Germany, Austria, Belgium and Spain. Of these, Japan further strengthened her position with a total value of ₹16·9 lakhs in 1905-06 while ₹1·35 lakhs of hosiery from Hongkong and the Straits Settlements were also probably Japanese.

**Silk Goods.**—After three years of continuous progress, the value of imports of silk manufactures receded by 10·2 per cent to ₹190·15 lakhs, although the average price improved slightly. Of the contraction of ₹21·6 lakhs, silk piece goods accounts for ₹10·83 lakhs. In this class Japan continues to predominate and has increased its share from ₹50·5 lakhs to ₹59 lakhs. China contributes ₹36·5 lakhs against ₹33 lakhs; but the Straits Settlements, which in 1904-05 was *entrepôt* for a trade amounting to ₹18·6 lakhs, now stands at ₹0·6 of a lakh. That proportion of the total which is derived from these three sources rose from 81·8 per cent to 84·4 per cent. In goods of silk mixed with other materials the decline was one of 21 per cent and their value contracted to ₹34·6 lakhs. "Other sorts" includes warps and yarn of Italian silk imported for the production of wares for the Indian market. This industry is mainly conducted in Bombay, but it appears that hand-weavers upcountry also are coming to rely on the imported yarns. In this class there was an increase of 2 per cent in quantity but a fall of 3.3 per cent in value, the figure being ₹41 lakhs.

**Woollen Goods.**—In imports of woollen goods there was a reaction of some 21 per cent in 1905-06; and the total value receded from ₹307·6 lakhs to ₹242·64 lakhs. Of the total decline of ₹65 lakhs, ₹26 lakhs are accounted for by piecegoods, which went back from ₹194·5 to ₹168·5 lakhs and from 23,742,000 yards to 19,991,000 yards. The contraction is therefore, one of 15·8 per cent in quantity and 13·3 per cent in value, with an enhancement of 3·2 per cent in the average value per yard. The share of the United Kingdom in this piecegoods trade went back from ₹136·8 lakhs to ₹117·64 lakhs while Germany's share contracted from ₹37·5 to ₹35·5 lakhs. The declines in these two cases were thus 14 per cent and 5·3 per cent; and the two countries now participate in the trade to the extent of 69·8 per cent and 21 per cent, respectively. Nearly ₹33 lakhs of the total decline occurred under shawls alone, and in this class the figure stated represented a shrinkage of some 54·7 per cent, this percentage holding good approximately in respect of quantity also. Of the total of 1,118,273 shawls imported, Germany supplied 927,259 or 82·9 per cent. Hosiery and yarn are this year distinguished for the first time from the general head of "Other sorts". Hosiery represents some 331,393 lbs with a value

of R8·95 lakhs, of which 91·5 per cent was derived from the United Kingdom. Yarn amounted to 529,390 lbs with a value of R8·67 lakhs, Germany supplying 51·8 per cent of that value.

**Other manufactured goods.**—Of other manufactured goods the following are the most important:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | Increase or decrease per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | R | R | |
| Apparel, including boots and shoes | 1,99,57,571 | 2,23,99,627 | 2,21,90,200 | — 0·9 |
| Arms and ammunition | 24,37,422 | 28,17,214 | 21,97,508 | —22 |
| Books and printed matter | 28,44,218 | 31,95,745 | 32,47,245 | + 1·6 |
| Building materials | 28,70,853 | 35,30,727 | 45,99,140 | +30·3 |
| Carriages and carts | 43,53,866 | 55,02,106 | 76,79,691 | +39·6 |
| Clocks and watches | 17,37,622 | 19,23,876 | 18,70,660 | — 2·8 |
| Earthen-ware and porcelain | 28,00,038 | 29,31,813 | 33,59,852 | +14·6 |
| Glass and glassware | 99,20,759 | 1,12,57,101 | 1,12,51,787 | —0·04 |
| Instruments and apparatus, scientific | 42,83,744 | 48,78,122 | 24,09,232 | —50·6 |
| Jewellery and gold and silver plate | 15,03,988 | 17,48,150 | 20,83,111 | +19·2 |
| Leather and manufactures of leather | 26,19,633 | 25,21,909 | 30,60,820 | +21·4 |
| Matches | 50,61,057 | 48,95,283 | 58,83,209 | +20·2 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 42,68,679 | 46,91,972 | 49,32,650 | + 5·1 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 52,18,396 | 64,37,288 | 70,48,925 | + 9·5 |
| Ships, parts of | 27,59,234 | 24,98,000 | 10,62,110 | —57·5 |
| Soap | 26,56,673 | 27,23,705 | 31,90,877 | +17·1 |
| Stationery | 37,08,048 | 36,77,860 | 37,70,417 | + 2·5 |
| Tea chests | 13,83,473 | 20,86,531 | 19,18,020 | —8·05 |
| Toys and requisites for games | 27,29,113 | 27,73,710 | 29,11,550 | + 4·9 |
| Umbrellas | 24,58,877 | 18,95,064 | 19,79,269 | + 4·4 |
| Umbrella-fittings | — | — | 14,15,944 | ... |

The most notable increase among these twenty-one articles is that of R21,77,585 or 39·6 per cent in carriages and carts. This heading includes **Motor cars** and **Motor cycles** R34·99 lakhs; and **Cycles** R15·4 lakhs. From 1906-07, motor cars and motor cycles, which already exceed in value the total imports of books and printed matter, will be shown separately. In **Books, etc.,** however, the progress is fairly constant. They increased by 1·6 per cent or R32·47 lakhs. Printing paper decreased in the same ratio to a total of R21·32 lakhs with a slight increase in the value per cwt. Other kinds of paper increased from R21 lakhs to R26·5 lakhs, but the average value in this case has apparently fallen by some 10·4 per cent. **Building materials** show an increase of R10·7 lakhs or 30·3 per cent. The trade in **Matches** has revived greatly since the resumption of imports from Japan, and that in **Earthen-ware** and **Porcelain** shows a healthy growth in each of the last three years, while imports of **Leather** and manufactures of leather have risen by 21·4 per cent to R30·61 lakhs. In spite of the importation of a large quantity of umbrella fittings for use in manufacture, the receipts of the finished **umbrellas** increased by 4·4 per cent, but are still considerably below the total in 1903-04. Umbrella fittings have hitherto been included in "Hardware" and are now distinguished for the first time. The steady growth in the imports of **soap** is worth noting. There are indications that the natives of India, who wash very frequently, are learning the merits of soap and the trade is one with great possibilities.

**Apparel** seems to have called a halt for the moment; and several of the articles which showed the most marked advances last year have receded in

1905-06. This often results from the accumulation of stocks; but the apparent contraction of **scientific instruments and apparatus** by nearly 50·6 per cent is due to the separate specification of "Electrical," "Surgical," and "Optical" instruments formerly included under this head. If these three items were included the head "Scientific Instruments" would show an increase of R64·58 lakhs or 32·4 per cent. The value of Electrical Instruments was R30·5 lakhs.

In the following list, which shows in thousands of rupees the value of the **principal articles of import** in the last three years, it is interesting to note how the large increases in cotton manufactures, sugar, iron, and machinery reflect the well-known features of the year throughout the world and how a decrease in copper coincides with remarkable rise in the price of that metal.

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Cotton manufactures: | | | |
| *Grey piece goods* | *13,26,75* | *16,38,52* | *18,93,24* |
| *White* „ | *6,20,67* | *8,26,29* | *8,47,37* |
| *Coloured* „ | *7,99,12* | *9,08,68* | *9,54,71* |
| *Yarn* | *2,14,21* | *2,48,76* | *3,42,55* |
| *Other sorts* | *1,40,31* | *1,82,43* | *2,06,42* |
| TOTAL | 31,01,06 | 38,04,68 | 42,44,29 |
| 2. Sugar | 5,93,58 | 6,90,27 | 7,77,40 |
| 3. Iron and steel | 6,00,18 | 6,12,54 | 6,64,54 |
| 4. Machinery and mill work | 3,35,26 | 4,02,72 | 4,91,96 |
| 5. Mineral oil | 3,44,93 | 3,32,50 | 2,22,90 |
| 6. Woollen manufactures | 2,15,94 | 3,07,64 | 2,42,65 |
| 7. Hardware and cutlery | 2,32,78 | 2,37,92 | 2,27,17 |
| 8. Apparel | 1,99,58 | 2,24,00 | 2,21,90 |
| 9. Provisions | 2,02,73 | 2,16,58 | 2,39,26 |
| 10. Silk manufactures | 1,83,35 | 2,11,81 | 1,90,15 |
| 11. Copper | 2,16,88 | 2,10,90 | 1,43,35 |
| 12. Railway material | 1,40,20 | 1,40,97 | 1,62,23 |
| 13. Glass and glassware | 99,21 | 1,12,57 | 1,12,52 |
| 14. Spices | 82,26 | 1,03,24 | 1,08,30 |
| 15. Spirits | 99,15 | 1,00,59 | 1,08,78 |
| 16. Precious stones and pearls | 1,52,15 | 87,76 | 1,34,14 |
| 17. Instruments and apparatus | 66,74 | 74,40 | 91,54 |
| 18. Silk, raw | 59,29 | 73,41 | 71,19 |
| 19. Aniline and alizarine dyes | 82,67 | 71,45 | 75,70 |
| 20. Salt | 63,69 | 71,13 | 65,92 |
| 21. Drugs and medicines | 68,12 | 70,74 | 67,57 |
| 22. Paper and pasteboard | 52,18 | 64,37 | 70,49 |
| 23. Cotton | 5,03 | 63,85 | 54,03 |
| 24. Chemicals | 59,02 | 61,32 | 68,94 |
| 25. Beer | 55,91 | 60,42 | 62,96 |
| 26. Timber | 42,47 | 58,14 | 81,47 |
| 27. Tobacco | 49,69 | 55,63 | 65,98 |
| 28. Horses | 52,49 | 55,48 | 46,76 |
| 29. Carriages and carts | 43,54 | 55,02 | 76,80 |
| 30. Matches | 50,61 | 48,96 | 58,83 |
| 31. Paints and colours and painters' materials | 42,69 | 46,92 | 49,32 |
| 32. Coal | 38,78 | 44,46 | 32,12 |
| 33. Stationery, excluding paper | 37,08 | 36,78 | 37,70 |

The large contraction in the imports of foreign **mineral oil** are ascribable to causes detailed in the chapter relating specially to that article.

**The Sources of Imported Merchandise** are, in the trade accounts of India, assumed to be those countries from which the goods were shipped in

such vessels as landed them in India. In the case of transhipment cargo, the port of such transhipment therefore appears as the port of origin unless a through Bill of Lading was granted at the port of original shipment. When such through Bill of Lading has been granted, the country of first shipment is assigned as the country of origin. Arrangements have now been made, and will shortly come into force, by which the true **countries of origin** will be more correctly ascertained; but it will be necessary for some years to conduct retrospective comparisons on the basis of the old system. According to that old system, the value of the imports was distributed among the various principal countries in the proportions indicated below:

| | 1901-02 per cent | 1902-03 per cent | 1903-04 per cent | 1904-05 per cent | 1905-06 per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. United Kingdom | 64·5 | 66·3 | 64·9 | 65·2 | 66·7 |
| 2. Belgium | 3·7 | 3·9 | 3·9 | 3·6 | 4·3 |
| 3. Germany | 3·7 | 2·7 | 3·4 | 3·9 | 4·2 |
| 4. Austria-Hungary | 4·8 | 3·2 | 2·6 | 4·1 | 3·9 |
| 5. Straits Settlements | 2·9 | 2·9 | 2·9 | 3·2 | 2·4 |
| 6. United States | 1·4 | 1·5 | 1·5 | 1·1 | 2·2 |
| 7. Mauritius | 2·4 | 2·5 | 3·1 | 2·1 | 2 |
| 8. Java | ·5 | ·7 | 1·4 | 2·1 | 1·8 |
| 9. China | 2·2 | 2·8 | 2·3 | 2 | 1·7 |
| 10. France | 1·7 | 1·8 | 1·9 | 1·9 | 1·7 |
| 11. Japan | ·97 | 1 | 1·5 | 1·2 | 1·2 |
| 12. Italy | 1·2 | 1 | 1·1 | 1·3 | 1·1 |
| 13. Russia | 3·9 | 3·4 | 2·9 | 1·7 | ·3 |

The United Kingdom has increased its predominance. Belgium appears to hold second place with 4·3 per cent; but it is well known that large quantities of German goods, being shipped from Belgium and Dutch ports, are erroneously credited to these countries. There can therefore be no doubt that Germany really occupies the second place. Austria-Hungary, in spite of her enormous shipments of sugar, has ceded the second place, which she held by virtue of the diffusion of Germany's total; but the decline was only relative. Java and Mauritius, as the representatives of cane sugar, have nearly maintained their position, having indeed had the sugar trade pretty well to themselves about July 1905; while the United States have doubled their share. Russia has for the present practically dropped out of the table; but Japan has retained her percentage of the increased total. The importance of China's direct shipment has diminished, and there has also been a fall in imports from the Straits Settlements which, as a port of transhipment, does much to confuse the statistical records of the East.

**Imports of Government Stores** are not included in these figures. These are large, amounting to ₹902·7 lakhs in 1905-06 as against ₹773 lakhs in 1904-05; and the share of the United Kingdom in this part of the trade, while showing a relative decline from 94 per cent to 90 per cent of the total, marked an absolute increase of 11·4 per cent, *i.e.*, from ₹728·1 to ₹811·16 lakhs.

Material for State Railways forms a considerable part of the total; and this and the other stores, with unimportant exceptions, in reality represent commercial operations. The following figures therefore show the share of the United Kingdom in the total import trade including Government Stores:

| 1901-02 per cent | 1902-03 per cent | 1903-04 per cent | 1904-05 per cent | 1905-06 per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 67 | 68·9 | 67·3 | 67·4 | 68·5 |

## EXPORTS OF IMPORTED GOODS.

The general development of direct communication between various parts of the world tends to diminish the trade of *entrepôts*. Other things being equal, a continuous decline in India's re-exports would, therefore, be expected under present conditions, and any rise in the re-export figures may be accepted as a very healthy sign. Such a rise—though amounting only to about ₹15,43 lakhs or 4·5 per cent on the previous year's total value—has in fact taken place; and it more than maintains the continuous expansion shown in the two previous years. The following statement records the extent of the trade in each of the last ten years:

| | ₹ | | ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1896-97 | 4,03,36,372 | 1901-02 | 3,25,98,163 |
| 1897-98 | 3,75,11,720 | 1902-03 | 2,93,56,132 |
| 1898-99 | 3,37,11,965 | 1903-04 | 3,32,55,087 |
| 1899-1900 | 3,29,24,912 | 1904-05 | 3,37,25,945 |
| 1900-01 | 3,20,85,314 | 1905-06 | 3,52,68,622 |

The steady decline until 1902-03 will be noted together with the recovery since that date. Some allowance might reasonably be made for the rise in the sterling value of the rupee during the earliest years of that period as shown in the statement given on page ii.

Of the total for 1905-06, the share of the United Kingdom, though marking a slight absolute decrease at ₹·63 lakhs, declined relatively from 20·4 per cent to 19·3 per cent. Persia increased its share to 17·4 per cent, Arabia to 17 per cent, while Turkey-in-Asia and China stood for 5·2 per cent and 4·9 per cent, respectively. The Straits Settlements, as might be expected, went back to 4·1 per cent. British East Africa declined to 4·4 per cent, Ceylon remained nearly constant at 4·5 per cent, while Aden increased her proportion to 5 per cent.

The increase pertains most largely to Bombay, whose share has risen from 76 per cent of the total to 78 per cent. The share of the chief ports of Western India (Bombay and Karachi) has gone up from 88 per cent to 89 per cent of the total. The greater part of the increase relates to goods from western countries; of these, cotton goods form the most important class and represent 40 per cent of the whole. Piece-goods more than recovered the loss of the previous year, and rose from ₹119·7 lakhs to ₹129·8 lakhs, most of this increase appearing in coloured goods which rose from ₹87·75 lakhs to ₹97·5. The level of prices was higher, so that the quantitative increase was less than that marked by the values; and Persia, Arabia, East Africa, and Aden all increased their demand. Yarn however at ₹6·22 lakhs showed a shrinkage of 31·8 per cent, and of this article Persia took only ₹4·27 lakhs in place of ₹7·1 in the previous year. Apparel showed a further decline to ₹14·65 lakhs, and oils fell by 48 per cent to ₹5·57 lakhs. The value of metals rose from ₹14·75 lakhs to ₹19·9 lakhs; and refined sugar, under the stimulus of the extraordinarily low prices lately ruling, leapt from ₹9·62 lakhs to ₹20·2 lakhs. The exports of foreign tea to Persia continued to decline and went to 364,000 lbs as against 500,000, the difference here more than accounting for the fall of the total exports of foreign tea from 927,000 lbs to 781,000 lbs. Russia took only 30,000 lbs in place of 150,000 in 1904-05 and the exports of green tea fell away from 338,000 to 73,000 lbs.

The re-exports westward are of much less dimensions. The United Kingdom takes ₹68 lakhs or 19·3 per cent of the total re-exports, as against 20·4

per cent in 1904-05. The chief commodity is raw wool (mainly from Karachi). The quantity declined from 5,177,000 lbs to 5,045,000 lbs, and the value from ₹25·90 lakhs to ₹25·81 lakhs.

## EXPORTS OF INDIAN MERCHANDISE.

While imports of merchandise increased by 6·6 per cent, the value of exported merchandise increased by only 2·66 per cent or ₹410 lakhs. This percentage, though small in itself, followed an increase of 3 per cent in 1904-05, which had been preceded by the unprecedented increase of 19 per cent in 1903-04; and, had it not been for the considerable set-back in the trade of food grains and seeds, the percentage of increase would have been slightly higher. The following figures are interesting as showing the progress which the Indian export trade has made in the past 26 years:

| | ₹ |
|---|---|
| Average 1880-81 to 1884-85 | 79,44,52,789 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 | 88,75,15,074 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 | 1,01,43,43,860 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 1,03,64,92,715 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 | 1,31,00,14,773 |
| 1905-06 | 1,58,22,65,967 |

The principal articles in the export trade are enumerated in the appended list with their values (in ₹) for five years:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton, raw | 14,42,60,933 | 14,75,71,981 | 24,37,61,464 | 17,43,46,872 | 21,33,19,890 |
| Rice | 13,91,95,678 | 18,89,52,506 | 19,08,49,230 | 19,60,66,732 | 18,64,20,546 |
| Jute, raw | 11,79,72,723 | 11,12,64,752 | 11,71,81,222 | 11,96,56,462 | 17,12,56,641 |
| Cotton yarn and cloth | 10,86,53,008 | 10,00,76,891 | 10,47,23,079 | 11,64,31,908 | 14,42,54,998 |
| Hides and skins | 8,23,06,848 | 8,43,51,534 | 8,93,50,894 | 9,90,58,538 | 13,77,77,432 |
| Jute manufactures | 8,71,14,174 | 9,01,98,987 | 9,46,91,969 | 9,93,88,676 | 12,44,70,684 |
| Seeds | 16,77,92,684 | 14,88,25,711 | 14,51,58,299 | 14,41,08,555 | 10,61,76,267 |
| Opium | 8,52,29,854 | 8,01,69,354 | 10,47,01,638 | 10,62,34,442 | 9,47,17,667 |
| Wheat | 3,62,72,080 | 4,98,08,201 | 11,61,88,389 | 18,59,82,302 | 9,17,27,464 |
| Tea | 8,14,94,893 | 7,36,16,421 | 8,55,79,327 | 8,46,54,867 | 8,85,83,849 |
| Lac | 96,05,279 | 1,85,07,872 | 2,72,38,970 | 3,07,64,121 | 3,18,01,161 |
| Wool, raw | 79,38,259 | 1,16,53,204 | 1,37,73,957 | 1,89,16,747 | 2,11,66,558 |
| Coffee | 1,25,02,200 | 1,32,12,628 | 1,36,73,773 | 1,66,09,757 | 1,75,67,240 |
| Pulse, millets, and cereals | 74,16,667 | 1,60,37,173 | 1,88,90,652 | 2,90,25,322 | 1,71,26,808 |
| Spices | 74,08,269 | 63,62,103 | 92,80,760 | 69,40,103 | 90,78,656 |
| Wood and timber | 89,15,416 | 87,51,474 | 1,12,20,919 | 78,41,754 | 89,59,642 |
| Oils | 69,17,507 | 85,76,793 | 1,03,09,017 | 1,00,30,678 | 81,78,269 |
| Provisions | 60,96,611 | 67,88,510 | 61,45,524 | 65,72,001 | 71,09,750 |
| Indigo | 1,85,22,554 | 1,20,56,819 | 1,07,62,026 | 83,46,073 | 58,63,177 |
| Silk, raw | 66,34,209 | 65,48,153 | 63,42,468 | 49,69,975 | 56,39,679 |

Indian exports consist largely of raw agricultural products, and in these there is a continual rise and fall following on prosperous or adverse seasons.

The decline in the exports of **wheat** from the extraordinary level of ₹1,859·82 lakhs attained in 1904-05 to ₹917·27 lakhs in 1905-06, is very noticeable and represents a fall of 50·7 per cent. The decline in wheat, coupled with a falling off in the exports of rice, seeds, and pulse, millets, and cereals, shows that damage done to the crops in one year takes effect in the exports of the succeeding year. The decline in the value of exports of opium was almost entirely due to the contraction of the Malwa crop. The fall in indigo was to be expected; indeed there appears no good ground to look for anything but continued subsidence. As explained in the chapter on oils, the fall in the article is to be attributed to the arrangement now established between the various oil interests that have hitherto been in acute conflict in the Eastern market and not to any inactivity in the oil trade of Burma.

The decline of trade in the articles mentioned above was more than compensated for by the increases in the value of certain other articles. Notable among these was the revival in the exports of raw cotton which in 1904-05 had fallen to ₹1,743·47 lakhs from ₹2,437·61 lakhs in the previous year. In 1905-06 it rose to ₹2,133·2 lakhs. Cotton yarn and cloth also rose from ₹1,164·32 lakhs to ₹1,442·55 lakhs. In the case of raw jute the value reached the unprecedented figure of ₹1,712·57 lakhs, but the quantity exported in 1905-06 (14,480 cwts) did not come up to the level of the quantity exported in 1901-02 (14,755 cwts) which is the best on record. Jute manufactures, hides and skins, and lac also increased considerably.

The statement below shows for five years the value (in rupees) of the trade in each of the four principal classes under which articles are grouped in the Accounts:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Articles of food and drink . . | 29,31,40,145 | 35,89,88,056 | 44,71,02,673 | 53,05,55,415 | 42,34,43,036 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics and dyeing and tanning materials. . . . . | 11,86,12,460 | 10,71,44,675 | 13,00,71,626 | 12,78,92,414 | 11,45,07,954 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . . . . . | 53,84,01,450 | 52,08,49,462 | 62,67,38,477 | 57,39,71,008 | 67,18,42,348 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . . . . | 24,98,37,620 | 25,81,69,367 | 27,64,42,968 | 29,32,16,631 | 35,65,34,036 |

The decline in the first class is attributed to the fall in food-grains, and in the second it was due principally to the continued drop in opium and indigo. In the third and fourth classes there has been a steady and continuous rise.

## ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.

**Coffee.**—The coffee market showed no marked features in 1905-06. The prices of high grade coffees declined while those of inferior descriptions hardened slightly; but Indian coffee, with a large production, was pushed for sale and the price fell away. The close of the financial year was marked by the conclusion of an agreement by which the Brazilian Government hopes at once to fix its coffee at not less than 55 francs per bag of 60 kilos.

In India the coffee crop is gathered in November to January and the export season is at its height about the close of the financial year. Half the crop is grown in Mysore, the remainder in Coorg, Madras, and Travancore. The area in Burma has contracted steadily in recent years. A contraction (less marked) appears in the returns for other parts of India; but this is belied by the increasing exports shown in the following statement; and the estimation of crop areas in all countries is more or less empirical:

| | cwts | ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 . . . . . | 255,042 | 1,25,02,200 |
| 1902-03 . . . . . | 269,165 | 1,32,12,628 |
| 1903-04 . . . . . | 291,254 | 1,36,73,773 |
| 1904-05 . . . . . | 329,647 | 1,66,09,757 |
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 360,182 | 1,75,67,240 |

There has thus been an increase of 9·26 per cent in quantity; but owing to the lower average price, which declined by 3·1 per cent, the rise in total value was one of only 5·76 per cent. The quantity taken by the United Kingdom was 172·384 cwts as compared with 187·344 cwts in 1904-05 and represented 48 per cent as against 57 per cent of the total; while 132,233 cwts or 36·7 per cent of the total were exported to France as against 96,876 cwts or 29·39 per cent in the previous year.

**Fruits and Vegetables.**—The value of the exports of fruits and vegetables amounted to R37·25 lakhs as against R31 lakhs in 1904-05. The principal article is **copra** exported mainly from Madras. There was an improvement of 13·54 per cent in quantity and of 19 per cent in value, the average price showing a substantial advance on that of the previous year. But the total of 177,049 cwts and R22·07 lakhs is still far short of the 353,724 cwts and R42·25 lakhs in 1903-04.

**Rice.**—Exports of rice represent 63·1 per cent of the total value of food-grains exported from India and 11·8 per cent of the value of all Indian produce exported.

The following statement shows in thousands of hundred weights and in value the exports during each of the last five years:

| | Cwts | Value R |
|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 . . . . | 34,029 | 13,91,89,658 |
| 1902-03 . . . . | 47,485 | 18,89,30,879 |
| 1903-04 . . . . | 45,002 | 19,08,28,393 |
| 1904-05 . . . . | 49,448 | 19,60,52,120 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 43,038 | 18,63,52,202 |

In 1905-06 the total exports to foreign countries receded by 13 per cent in quantity, but only 4·9 per cent in value. This difference proceeds from a rise of 9·2 per cent in the average declared value. But the exportable surplus of rice depends not merely on the crop of rice produced, but on the relative success or failure of the other food crops throughout the country and on the greater or diminished demand that may arise for rice in substitution for those others. Some gauge of this factor may be found in the shipments of rice from Burma to India proper. These amounted in 1905-06 to 460,000 tons, which marks an advance of no less than 159,000 tons, or 52·8 per cent, on the figures of the previous year. The greater part of that increase arose since the new crop came in, and with a price a good deal stronger than at the same date in 1905, it would be reasonable to expect that, with a Burma crop not greatly exceeding that of the previous year, the surplus available for export abroad will contract. In the three months January to March 1906 India took no less than 242,000 tons from Burma, most of this going, as usual, to Bombay and Madras.

Japan retains its position as the largest purchaser of Indian rice; but there has been a fall to 6,593,500 cwts, this being nearly 29 per cent less than in the previous year. The largest quantity taken by Japan in any one month in the past year was 1,493,097 cwts in February 1906. The other principal customers are Ceylon and the Straits Settlements each of which in the past two years has taken fairly equal and constant amounts varying between 5,031,000 cwts to the Straits and 6,803,000 to Ceylon. The latter island takes a considerable proportion of the unhusked rice exported, which in 1905-06 amounted to 829,415 cwts with a value of R22·6 lakhs. In all, Ceylon took 340,161 tons which is 10·2 per cent more than in 1904-05, while in value the rise from R287 lakhs to R344 lakhs represented an addition of 20 per cent or an enhancement of average value by about 9 per cent.

The growth of the practice of direct shipment tends to diminish the exports to the Straits as a point of distribution, and in 1905-06 they declined by a further 7·1 per cent to a value of R206 lakhs.

Of western countries it is somewhat more difficult to speak with confidence regarding recent figures, because the major portion of the large quantities

ascribed to Egypt are really sent there "for orders," and may on adjustment (which is now carried out wehn the information becomes available) be assigned to a number of other countries, so upsetting each of them. The most important occidental buyer of Indian rice is Germany. The quantity taken by the United Kingdom in 1905-06 fell away to 173,695 tons with a value of R149·11 lakhs; while Germany took 248,469 tons with a value of R197 lakhs. The direct shipments to Austria-Hungary declined from 198,231 tons to 122,134 with a value of only R87·5 lakhs, while Holland received 125,671 tons with a value of R89 lakhs.

**Wheat.**—On the average of the last five years, the value of the wheat exported has represented 39·8 per cent of the exports of all food-grains and 6·4 per cent of the total value of Indian merchandise exported.

The wheat crop of 1905-06—more particularly in the United Provinces—was very seriously injured by frosts when it was approaching maturity; and although the damage was in some cases found to be less than was expected, the effects of the misfortune are very clearly marked in the contraction of the exports to less than half the figure attained in the previous year.

It must be understood that the wheat exports of one financial year are drawn mainly from the crop of the previous year. The wheat exported in 1905-06 therefore belongs mainly to the crop of 1904-05; but no review of the wheat trade can be properly intelligible from which particulars of the crop are excluded. For these reasons the following statement shows much more clearly than any explanation could, the Indian exports for the year 1905-06 in comparison with the crop data for 1904-05, and the average exports in the five years period ending 1904-05 with the average crop data for the five years ending 1903-04. Comparison is also made between the figures for the year under review and those for the last preceding year; and in every case the percentage ratio of increase or decrease is brought out, the average of the earlier period or year being taken as 100. A column is added showing the areas under irrigation; and it may be stated that in 1899-1900 the irrigated area, under wheat, which now stands at 7,420,000 acres, represented 8,120,000 acres.

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average of Previous five years | Previous year | Year under review (*b*) | Ratio of col. 3 to | |
| | | | | Col. 1 | Col. 2 |
| Area, thousands of acres. | 23,593 | 28,414 | 28,470 | 120·7 | 100·2 |
| Outturn, thousands of tons . . . | 7,278 | 9,641 | 7,582 | 104·2 | 78·6 |
| Irrigated area, in thousands of acres (*a*) . | 8,375 | 9,441 | 7,420 | 88·6 | 78·6 |
| Exports, thousand of tons | 866 | 2,150 | 938 | 108·3 | 43·6 |
| Exports, thousands of rupees . . . | 7,35,93 | 17,90,61 | 8,53,44 | 116 | 47·7 |
| Average export value, rupees . . . | 85 | 83·3 | 91 | 107 | 109·2 |
| Imports, thousands of tons | 8 | ... | 23 | 287·5 | ... |

(*a*) For British India only.

(*b*) In respect of area and outturn the " year under review " is 1904-05. In respect of Exports and Imports the " year under review " is 1905-06.

The five years periods include respectively 1899-1900, in which there was a signal failure of the wheat crop, and 1900-01 in which restriction of area and contraction of exports were among the *sequelæ* of the disaster. It is not generally remembered, or indeed known, that some foreign wheat is imported into

certain provinces of India every year and that in times of shortage it is taken in considerable quantities even by ports from which grain is commonly shipped. In 1905-06, the imports amounted to some 454,600 cwts with a value of about ₹22·5 lakhs. Of this, Australia furnished some 396,000 cwts and the Persian Gulf ports about 59,000 cwts. This total was exceeded only in 1896-97 and in 1900-01 when 601,356 cwts and 559,351 cwts, respectively, were imported; but in each of the famine years 1877-78 and 1878-79 the imports exceeded 400,000 cwts.

In 1904, India was the largest contributor to the wheat supply of the United Kingdom and furnished 25,493,000 cwts out of a total of 97,782,500. But in 1905 it fell back into the third place with 22,807,422 cwts, which Russia and Argentina both exceeded. The United States, which in 1903 sent 24,197,895 cwts to Britain, sent only 6,634,700 in 1905. On the other hand, the British crop, which in 1904 had sunk to about 36,880,216 bushels, rose to 58,902,499 bushels in 1905, the yield per acre increasing from 30·56 bushels to 32·78, and being of good quality.

The shortage in wheat and the enhancement of prices necessarily restricted the exports of **wheat flour.** These had grown from 810,422 cwts to 1,031,495 cwts in 1904-05, and in 1905-06 they contracted to 899,056 cwts which marks an approximate return to the normal rate of progress since 1900-01. The decline is one of 12·8 per cent in quantity and 7·8 per cent in value. The exports go mainly to Aden, Arabia, Mauritius, East Africa, the Straits Settlements, and Ceylon. The new trade with the United Kingdom contracted from 52,500 cwts to 15,800 cwts, the shrinkage in this section representing 27·7 per cent of the total shrinkage under flour.

**Other Food-grains.**—The **food-grains other than wheat and rice** exported in 1905-06 showed a contraction of no less than 47 per cent as a consequence of unfavourable weather conditions. The total quantity amounted to only 224,303 tons with a value of ₹171·26 lakhs. The largest quantitative shrinkage occurred in pulse which contracted by 31·7 per cent to 106,826 tons. Jawar and Bajra declined by 42,787 tons which however represented 29·6 per cent in the previous year. Gram receded by 46 per cent to 20,884 tons, barley by 75 per cent to 4,647 tons and "other sorts" (including maize) by 90 per cent to 8,406 tons.

**Provisions and Spices.**—The value of provisions increased by 8 per cent to ₹71.1 lakhs, the principal articles in the class being **ghi** (clarified butter) which increased to ₹29·4 lakhs and **fish** which receded to ₹21·6 lakhs on the transfer to "Manures" of that portion of dried fish which is designed to be used as a fertilizer.

Exports of spices showed a marked recovery from the low figures of 1904-05, and at ₹90·79 lakhs are within measurable distance of the record of 1903-04. The increase was due mainly to the circumstance that 1905-06 saw the largest export of pepper on record, namely 17,890,000 lbs, this being 77 per cent greater than in 1904-05. The value increased, in slightly lower ratio, to ₹61·07 lakhs, the average declared value being *As. 5-6* per lb against *As. 5-7* in 1904-05. In **Ginger** there was a quantitative decline of 11·6 per cent to 9,869,000 lbs with a value of ₹12·53 lakhs. **Chillies,** on the other hand, declined by about 5·4 per cent in quantity while rising in value by 13 per cent to about ₹12·8 lakhs.

**Tea.**—The area under tea in India in 1885 was 283,925 acres, and the yield 71,525,977 lbs. In 1895 the area under tea had increased to 415,717 acres,

and the production to 143,407,827 lbs. The **area and production** since 1901 have been as follows:

| | Area acres | Production lbs |
|---|---|---|
| 1901 | 524,767 | 191,302,773 |
| 1902 | 525,257 | 188,589,261 |
| 1903 | 526,611 | 209,041,888 |
| 1904 | 524,472 | 222,217,223 |
| 1905 | 527,290 | 222,360,132 |

In 1905 there were 422,335 acres (or 80 per cent of the whole) in the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam which with Bengal Proper represented 90 per cent of the total, the other tenth being divided between Northern India with 17,346 acres and Southern India with 33,083 acres.

The production has increased much more rapidly than the area; and, while since 1885 the latter has developed by only 85 per cent, thefor mer has advanced by 210 per cent. It is however extremely difficult to check the estimates of production owing to the unascertainable nature of the internal consumption, which there is good reason to believe, must exceed 7 million lbs per annum.

The following figures show the quantity and value of tea **exported** from India in the last five years:

| | Quantity lbs | Value ₹ |
|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 | 179,684,932 | 8,14,94,893 |
| 1902-03 | 181,423,518 | 7,36,16,421 |
| 1903-04 | 207,159,793 | 8,55,79,327 |
| 1904-05 | 211,887,158 | 8,46,54,867 |
| 1905-06 | 214,223,788 | 8,84,76,037 |

The figures for 1905-06 represent a record both in quantity and value. The increase in quantity as compared with 1904-05 is 2·34 million lbs or slightly over one per cent and in value ₹38·21 lakhs or 4·51 per cent, the increase in specific value thus being one of 3·37 per cent.

The **joint-stock capital** engaged in the industry amounts to nearly £14,316,727, *viz.*:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Companies registered in India | ₹3,38,58,869 | £2,257,258 |
| „ „ London | — | £12,059,469 |

This gives an average capital of £27 per acre.

It takes, however, no account of the large but unknown quantity of **private capital** also engaged.

The **labour** employed is returned as 469,208 permanent and 83,791 temporary hands making a total of 552,999 hands or about one to the acre.

The quantities of tea exported to the principal countries in the last three years have been as follows:

| | 1903-04 lbs | 1904-05 lbs | 1905-06 lbs |
|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom | 170,186,000 | 167,691,000 | 166,591,000 |
| Canada | 8,576,000 | 12,607,000 | 15,019,000 |
| Russia | 9,451,000 | 9,332,000 | 9,988,000 |
| Australia | 7,269,000 | 6,601,000 | 7,729,000 |
| Turkey in Asia | 2,830,000 | 4,009,000 | 3,543,000 |
| China | 2,008,000 | 1,813,000 | 3,076,000 |
| Persia | 2,171,000 | 3,130,000 | 1,102,000 |
| United States | 1,528,000 | 2,237,000 | 2,175,000 |
| Other countries | 3,141,000 | 4,461,000 | 5,001,000 |

The share of the United Kingdom thus appears to have declined from 79·14 per cent in 1904-05 to 77·76 per cent in 1905-06. To determine exactly the true

destinations of this tea, it would be necessary to examine the statistics of re-exports from the United Kingdom, and for this there is no space here available. Owing, moreover, to the use of optional Bills of Lading for shipments to London, the figures here given do not in all cases represent the actual destination of the goods. It is however found that over the sixteen years 1890 to 1905 the net discrepancy between the Indian returns of exports to the United Kingdom and the British returns of imports from India is less than 1 per cent. The direct shipments to the United States are found to have declined somewhat in 1905-06.

The exports to Canada have on the other hand developed from 6 per cent of the total to 7 per cent; and those to Australia, which represented 3·1 per cent in 1904-05, now represent 3·6 per cent. The shipments to Russia have also developed satisfactorily. Generally, it may be said that the percentage that goes to the United Kingdom declines continuously, while the direct imports by other countries increase in an equal proportion.

Five years ago Calcutta shipped 87 per cent of the entire tea exports of India. Last year she did only about 74 per cent of the total, while Chittagong in the same time has raised her percentage from 8·2 to 19·3, and Southern India at 6 per cent has doubled her share.

In the last year India has increased her exports of tea by 44 per cent. Ceylon, with 170,183,558 lbs in 1905, has increased hers by 55 per cent. China's exports of Black and Green tea, at 112,152,533 lbs, have in the same period declined by 31 per cent and her exports of brick and dust, at 70,784,267 lbs, have receded by 10 per cent.

The average **prices** of the three descriptions of tea most largely sold at public sales in Calcutta in the last five years have been as follows, stated in annas and pies per lb:

| | Broken Pekoe | | Pekoe | | Pekoe Souchong | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *a.* | *p.* | *a.* | *p.* | *a.* | *p.* |
| 1901 | 6 | 1⅕ | 5 | 2⅜ | 4 | 5⅜ |
| 1902 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 2½ | 4 | 3¼ |
| 1903 | 6 | 6¼ | 5 | 10 | 5 | 2 |
| 1904 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| 1905 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 2 |

These figures exhibit the rise in the prices of superior qualities, and the decline in the prices of inferior descriptions, which have made a noticeable feature in the year's trade.

In the first three months of the financial year the British tea trade was restricted and deranged by rumours that the import duty on tea would, with effect from 1st July 1905, be reduced from 8*d.* to 6*d.* This led to abnormal accumulations of stocks in bond and to the unprecedented clearances on the night of the 30th June. Special arrangements were made by the Customs and the sum paid in as advances of duty on tea to be cleared amounted to between £300,000 and £400,000, the smaller of which sums represents some 12,000,000 lbs of tea. The consumption in the United Kingdom in 1905 is estimated at about 259,000,000 lbs; though the consumption per head is still short of the figure it attained some years ago. Owing to shortage in the supplies from China and Japan the market at home was, as has been said, comparatively strong as regards better class teas but weak for inferior descriptions; and this tendency appears to have been intensified by the further reduction of the British duty by one penny with effect from the 1st July 1906.

## METALS

**Manganese Ore** represents nearly 82 per cent of the value of all exported metals and manufactures thereof other than hardware, the balance consisting of manufactures of brass, copper, and iron. The trade, which has virtually come into existence in the last ten years and had grown to 180,945 tons in 1904-05, received a great impulse from the failure of the Russian supplies as a consequence of the political disturbances which affected the mines at Donetz as well as those in the Caucasus. Before those disturbances Russia exported some 420,000 tons; but during a great part of the year under review the trade was virtually closed. The exports from India accordingly rose to 316,694 tons, marking an increase of more than 75 per cent while the value rose by 79 per cent to ₹43 lakhs. The rise in average value here indicated is only from ₹13-4-11 to ₹13-10-0 per ton or about 2·4 per cent; but there can be little doubt that the real gain was considerably greater and that the profits at present being made must be large, seeing that the price of manganese in Europe has risen by about 50 per cent. The exports go mainly to America, the United Kingdom, and the Continent of Europe; and the present activity in the steel industry, synchronising with the restriction of the Russian output, makes an extraordinarily happy combination for the Indian seller.

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, NARCOTICS, AND DYES

**Saltpetre.**—Saltpetre, together with Borax, practically represents the exports of chemicals from India. The quantity fell from 348,741 cwts to 336,429 cwts, while the value rose from ₹36·25 lakhs to ₹38·5 lakhs. The quantitative contraction of 3·5 per cent, in conjunction with a 6·3 per cent rise in value, marks an increase of 10·2 per cent, in the specific value of the article. This only reflects the general tendency in all nitrates as a consequence of the increased consumption and the regulation of the output by the Nitrate Directorate at Iquique.

**Borax** was exported to the extent of 4,146 cwts with a value of ₹8 lakhs, its average value thus standing some 70 per cent higher than that of Saltpetre.

**Opium.**—The Malwa crop continues to contract, and whereas ten years ago it probably amounted to some 40,000 chests of 140 lbs each and five years ago to from 30,000 to 35,000, in the last two years it has shrunk first to about 25,000 chests and then to about 18,000. The continuous decline in the exports of Malwa opium to China since 1885 is shown by the following figures derived from an unofficial but reliable source:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1885 to 1889 | average | 35,035 chests |
| 1890 to 1894 | „ | 28,907 „ |
| 1895 to 1899 | „ | 22,590 „ |
| 1900 to 1904 | „ | 21,108 „ |
| 1904 | | 18,823 „ |
| 1905 | | 15,043 „ |

Apart from accidents to the crop, Malwa opium has the trade disability of varying greatly in consistency, weight, strength, and price, with the effect that. Bengal opium of the standard type is increasingly preferred in China. For example, "middling good" last year's Malwa might be quoted at ₹1,430 while 7 or 8 years old might fetch anything between ₹1,650 and ₹1,700. The

shortage in Malwa and the consequent relative predominance of old stock account for the extraordinarily high price attained in 1904-05 in Bombay, where it rules the market, and for the further increase of 8·6 per cent in 1905-06 as shown in the statement below. This statement gives the export and the prices per chest for each of the last five years :

| | Exports | | | | *Average price per chest* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal chests | Bombay chests | Total chests | Value ₹ | Bengal ₹ | Bombay ₹ |
| 1901-02 | 48,062 | 17,541 | 65,603 | 8,52,29,854 | 1,299 | 1,301 |
| 1902-03 | 48,154 | 19,375 | 67,531 | 8,01,69,354 | 1,144 | 1,295 |
| 1903-04 | 48,218 | 25,419 | 73,637 | 10,47,01,638 | 1,460 | 1,349 |
| 1904-05 | 47,855 | 19,006 | 66,861 | 10,62,34,442 | 1,585 | 1,599 |
| 1905-06 | 48,833 | 14,103 | 62,936 | 9,47,17,667 | 1,438 | 1,736 |

The decrease was one of 5·9 per cent in quantity and 10·8 per cent in value. In Bengal the price more than lost what it had gained in the previous year, and, with an increased export, fell back to ₹1,438. The average price of the Calcutta sales was ₹1,498 for the calendar year and ₹1,436 for the year from April 1905 to March 1906, the maximum of each of these periods respectively being ₹1,621 in February and ₹1,533 in June 1905. Exports to Hong-Kong and the Straits Settlements showed increases of 66 chests and 113 chests, respectively, their totals being 37,886 chests and 12,368 chests while shipments to the Treaty Ports registered a fall of 4,042 chests to a total of 10,121.

**Tobacco.**—The unmanufactured tobacco exported from India consists largely of leaf intended for the *hookah* or *narghili* and not destined for processes of manufacture. Aden has in past years taken large quantities of this leaf, partly because the port is an *entrepôt* of the trade in fine *Arabian Tumbeki* and has therefore afforded an outlet for various qualities. The British duty is prohibitive as regards unmanufactured Indian leaf; but certain conditions that have arisen in the home trade in recent years make it just possible that light coloured grades of this article might be used seeing that more than 2,000,000 lbs go to Holland every year. The exports of unmanufactured descriptions have grown in quantity by 6·3 per cent and in value by nearly 12 per cent. In the manufactured class—which consists mainly of cigars—the increase has been a substantial one of about 10 per cent in quantity and about 12·1 per cent in value, but both in quantity and value it still falls short of the record of 1902-03.

The figures of the trade during the last three years were :

| | Unmanufactured | | Manufactured | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | Cwts | ₹ |
| 1903-04 | 101,500 | 12,86,241 | 9,207 | 8,10,438 |
| 1904-05 | 109,968 | 12,56,950 | 9,497 | 8,24,320 |
| 1905-06 | 116,886 | 14,07,241 | 10,543 | 9,33,196 |

**Indigo.**—Discussion continues regarding the relative merits of natural and synthetic indigo and the possibility that the former can survive. Meantime the laws that are debated continue to operate, and the statistics of the trade almost suggest that before the disputants desist, the subject of their difference as a "serious" article of commerce may have disappeared.

The following statement shows the exports of indigo in the past eleven years:

| | From Calcutta | From Madras | From other ports | Total | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | ₹ |
| 1895-96 . | 111,714 | 62,425 | 13,198 | 187,337 | 5,35,45,112 |
| 1896-97 . | 109,001 | 43,680 | 16,842 | 169,523 | 4,37,07,570 |
| 1897-98 . | 71,364 | 48,165 | 14,320 | 133,849 | 3,05,74,019 |
| 1898-99 . | 81,779 | 42,760 | 10,648 | 135,187 | 2,97,04,781 |
| 1899-1900 . | 59,078 | 39,853 | 12,489 | 111,420 | 2,69,25,107 |
| 1900-01 . | 71,637 | 18,940 | 11,914 | 102,491 | 2,13,59,808 |
| 1901-02 . | 55,038 | 25,400 | 9,312 | 89,750 | 1,85,22,554 |
| 1902-03 . | 29,403 | 32,242 | 3,732 | 65,377 | 1,20,56,819 |
| 1903-04 . | 29,858 | 24,414 | 6,138 | 60,410 | 1,07,62,026 |
| 1904-05 . | 30,029 | 11,901 | 7,322 | 49,252 | 83,46,073 |
| 1905-06 . | 19,062 | 7,756 | 4,368 | 31,186 | 58,63,777 |

The total exports from India in 1905-06 amounted to only 31,186 cwts with a value of ₹58·63 lakhs. Ten years before they were 187,337 cwts with a value of ₹535·45 lakhs. Therefore in ten years there has been a loss of 83·26 per cent in quantity, and in value a decline of 89·05 per cent, the difference between these percentages marking a decline in specific value. In 1895-96, the average value was ₹285·8 per cwt. In 1905-06 it was ₹188 per cwt. The loss therefore is one of ₹97·8 per cwt or 34 per cent. In 1904-05 the quantity exported was 49,252 cwts and the value ₹83·46 lakhs. On these figures the totals for 1905-06 mark a decline of 36·7 per cent in quantity and 29·7 per cent in value. The average value in the earlier year was ₹169·6 per cwt, so that there has been a recovery of about 7 per cent in price. This was the result of a really stronger demand induced in home markets by the contraction of supply, and it was reflected in London where, during the year 1905, a rise of 9*d.* a lb was recorded. This is the first movement that has seemed to suggest a possibility that bottom has been touched so far as concerns those few purposes for which indigo possesses a recognised advantage over the artificial dye. The exports to the United Kingdom fell away no less than 30 per cent, and the Continent also took less than in the previous year. Egypt still retains first place but with a lead so diminished as to bring it behind the figures attained by United Kingdom last year; while direct exports to Persia have shrunk by 55·9 per cent. The United States took only 1,530 cwts compared with 4,334 in the previous year. Only a negligible revival has appeared in the Japan trade, in which the natural article continues to be handicapped in relation to the synthetic dye by the quantitative assessment of both to import duty without regard to the higher tinctorial strength of the latter. The recovery brought the quantity exported to Japan to only 242 cwts with a value of ₹47,506. And while the past year has been marked in Germany by an agreement between the chief manufacturers for the purpose of the more effectual prosecution of the rival industry, in India it has seen such a further contraction of indigo cultivation as appears to indicate an indisposition on the part of planters to await the issue of the academic discussion that has been referred to above. The area under indigo in Bengal, United Provinces, Punjab, and Madras in December last was 380,663 acres as against 476,949 in the previous year. In the previous five years the area averaged 833,742 acres, and in the previous ten years 1,112,661. Much of the ground that used to be under indigo has now been turned over to cotton, which offers a fairly constant market, and to sundry experimental cultures like rubber, flax, etc. The most interesting of the

experiments now in hand is that with the Java-Natal seed. It is stated on good authority that some 2,000 acres have been placed under that crop by various planters, and the results of this year ought to show whether it is possible to maintain the high percentage of indigotine obtained from the earlier samples tested. A very great deal will depend on that issue.

**Other Dyeing and Tanning Materials.**—Of this class **Myrabolams** is by far the most important item and represents a branch of trade that has naturally benefited by the great activity in leather. The exports increased by about 1·6 per cent while the average value rose from R3-9-5 to R3-11-2 per cwt or 3·1 per cent. The contraction in **Cutch** was continued, and the quantity represents less than 49 per cent of the exports of two years earlier. In **Turmeric** there was a very slight recovery both in quantity and price.

| | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | R | Cwts | R | Cwts | R |
| Cutch . . | 112,938 | 19,71,896 | 62,562 | 9,71,041 | 55,070 | 8,63,876 |
| Myrabolams . | 1,229,609 | 42,10,288 | 1,187,585 | 42,59,063 | 1,206,398 | 44,60,676 |
| Turmeric . | 68,234 | 4,52,653 | 44,090 | 3,04,756 | 49,545 | 4,41,768 |

## OILS

**Oils** (animal, essential, mineral, and vegetable) showed in 1905-06 a decline of 18·4 per cent on the exports of the previous year and represented a total value of only R81·78 lakhs as against R100·31 lakhs in 1904-05. The greatest falling-off was in mineral oils, the exports of which fell away by some 2,460,864 gallons and R11,71,636. But that this was due to no lack of activity in the industry, is shown by the facts that the shipments of kerosene from Burma to other Indian ports increased by 4,886,777 gallons and R23,77,218 or about 10 per cent and that the average declared value per gallon in the foreign exports rose from As. 7-9 to As. 8 per gallon. This is to be attributed to the arrangement now established between the various oil interests that have hitherto been in acute conflict in the Eastern markets.

Exports of paraffin wax, which is classed as oil, increased by 4·9 per cent to R11·68 lakhs, while the trade in candles produced from petroleum increased in quantity by about 79·2 per cent and attained the substantial figure of 6,009,000 lbs with a value of R16·5 lakhs.

Vegetable oils have fallen away by 13·5 per cent to R53,99,475. Cocoanut, with a total value of R22,26,673, declined by R6·91 lakhs, which is more than accounted for in Madras alone. Some 10 per cent of this is offset by a small increase of castor oil to R17·12 lakhs, but it was augmented by a loss of R2·18 lakhs in linseed, mustard, til, etc.

## RAW MATERIALS

**Coal.**—There were, at the end of the year 1905-06, 47 companies engaged in mining for coal in India, working with a nominal capital of R2,88,54,500, of which R2,26,13,248 had been paid up. Forty-six of these companies conducted their operations in Bengal, their nominal capital amounting to R2,87,04,500; the other company was in Burma. The first coal mine in India was opened in Bengal in 1820. For 20 years this was the only mine at work in India, and there was hardly any progress after that until the construction of railways began, and the East Indian Railway in 1854 passed through coal-fields. In the beginning, however, Indian railways not only consumed comparatively

little coal, but depended to a large extent for their supplies upon the United Kingdom. With the construction of mills and factories in Western India and in the neighbourhood of Calcutta the demand for Indian coal grew apace. Indian factories now work almost entirely with Indian coal, and Indian railways have reduced their demands for foreign coal to a minimum, whilst Indian coal is being taken yearly in greater quantities by ships trading to Indian ports.

The increase in output from the beginning, and particularly during the last 20 years, has been steady with but few set-backs. The output of Indian coal in 1885 was 1,294,221 tons. In 1904 the production had risen to 8,216,706 tons, and it stood in 1905 at 8,417,739 tons, the increase being one of 5·35 per cent in 20 years and 2·45 per cent in the last twelve months.

In 1905-06 the exports of coal and coke exceeded all records in respect of both quantity and value. The largest quantity previously shipped had been 594,832 tons in 1904-05, and the largest value of shipments was ₹59·39 lakhs in 1900-01. The record attained in 1905-06 was 837,251 tons with a value of ₹65·8 lakhs, which figures exceed those for 1904-05 by 40·7 per cent in quantity and 41·4 per cent in value. The average value was ₹7·86 per ton against ₹7·81 in 1904-05, and ₹10·97 in 1900-01.

Ceylon continues in the first place as buyer of Indian coal, and its shipments made a further advance of 6,297 tons, bringing its total to 381,051 tons against 374,754 in the previous year. Straits Settlements have made a great stride in the past twelve months, and took 235,429 tons against 143,729 in 1904-05.

Exports to Sumatra also continued to increase and show 35,227 tons against 30,802. The trade with Aden, which fell away by one-third in 1904-05, has this year recovered to some extent and stands at 29,312 tons; but in shipments to East Africa the decline is maintained, and these are little more than half of what they stood at in the previous year.

All but 1,600 tons of the exports went from Calcutta; and in addition to that port's foreign exports no less than 2,012,546 tons were shipped to other Indian ports, this representing an increase of about 12·7 per cent (53 per cent of the total going to Bombay). Exports of bunker coal for use on steamers rose from 770,589 tons to 851,639.

**Cotton.**—The export trade in raw cotton is of course conditioned by the indigenous crop results, but is governed, when internal conditions are favourable, by the relation of textile activity in Europe and the United States to the supplies available in America and Egypt. In all these respects the season of 1905-06 was fairly satisfactory. The area under cotton in India has in the last three years increased from 16·5 million acres to nearly 20·5 million. The yield of the crop of 1904-05, from which much of the exports was derived, showed an increase of 21 per cent over that of 1903-04, and amounted to 13·66 million cwts; but the crop of 1905-06 diminished by 15 per cent to about 11·60 million cwts. The conditions were in the latter year especially unfavourable in the Central Provinces, Berar, Hyderabad, and the Punjab. The American crop of 13·56 million bales of 500 lbs in 1905, as compared with 10·01 million bales in 1904, was the largest on record, and might have been expected to weaken Indian export prices greatly. But the general activity in the textile industries, the reports of extensive mill construction and the rumours of restricted cultivation and regulated selling in America sustained the Indian values better than could have been foreseen. The following are the prices of Middling

Uplands Cotton at Liverpool in the last two years stated in pennies and decimals of a penny per lb:

| | 1905 | 1906 3 months |
|---|---|---|
| Opening | 3·83 | 6·96 |
| Highest | 6·48 | 8·96 |
| Lowest | 3·68 | 3·63 |
| Closing | 6·24 | 3·77 |
| Average | 5·09 | 6·60 |
| At 1st April | 4·28 | 6·05 |

Another factor that tended to harden the price of country cotton was the great activity of the Indian textile industry. Allowing for wastage in process of manufacture it is calculated that the Indian mills in 1905-06 have used 7,234,760 cwts of cotton against 6,145,301 cwts in 1904-05—the former being equal to 2,025,733 Indian bales of 400 lbs. The difference of 1,089,459 cwts is equal to about 8 per cent of the entire crop of 1904-05.

The following figures give a summary of the export trade in the last five years:

| | *Exports* | | *Declared value* |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *Unit 1,000* cwts | value ₹ | per cwt ₹ *a.* |
| 1901-02 | 5,700 | 14,42,61 | 25 5 |
| 1902-03 | 6,045 | 14,75,72 | 24 6 |
| 1903-04 | 7,931 | 24,37,61 | 30 12 |
| 1904-05 | 5,658 | 17,43,47 | 30 13 |
| 1905-06 | 7,396 | 21,33,20 | 28 13½ |

The statement below shows the destinations of cotton during the same period, the unit as before being 1,000 cwts:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Japan | 2,526 | 1,722 | 1,680 | 1,951 | 2,231 |
| Germany | 754 | 1,122 | 1,568 | 1,025 | 1,384 |
| Belgium | 413 | 779 | 1,089 | 668 | 1,126 |
| Italy | 520 | 647 | 1,001 | 627 | 808 |
| Austria-Hungary | 373 | 569 | 705 | 456 | 615 |
| United Kingdom | 166 | 372 | 652 | 347 | 373 |
| France | 267 | 419 | 560 | 235 | 482 |
| China | 559 | 196 | 165 | 171 | 185 |
| Spain | 67 | 111 | 265 | 127 | 140 |

The importance of Japan as a buyer of Indian cotton is clearly shown by these figures, and it is not surprising that some misgivings are felt regarding the possibility of her finding new sources of supply. Germany and Belgium, which may be regarded conjointly, have increased their takings by some 817,000 cwts. Italy, France, and Austria-Hungary have all done so in less measure, but the increase in exports to the United Kingdom is insignificant.

**Hides and Skins.**—Trade in 1905-06 has been attended by several very marked movements in prices; and the hide and leather trades have furnished some of the most marked examples. The very great consumption of leather during the Japanese war and the extensive employment of certain classes of goods in industries that are now active, have depleted stocks and induced an enhancement of the European hide prices ranging generally from about 25 per cent to 60 per cent. The all-round increase in price is indicated by the fact that Britain's imports of leather in 1905 showed a quantitative decline of 13,553 cwts with an increase of £29,104 in value. The Indian exports of hides and skins did not share in the rise of value to anything like this extent; but comparison of the

quantities and values exported in 1904-05 and in 1905-06 shows that the average value per cwt of raw hides rose from ₹52-4-8 to ₹55-7-0 or 6 per cent and that of raw skins fell from ₹91-1-6 to ₹90-7-1 or ·7 per cent. At the same time the trade was greatly stimulated and the exports of **raw hides** rose by 33·1 per cent in weight and 41·1 per cent in value. The exports of **raw skins** increased in number by 38·4 per cent over those of the previous year, and in value by 46 per cent. An improvement in average weight is marked by the fact that the total weight increased 47·1 per cent as compared with the above 38·4 per cent. The number of **raw hides and raw skins together** amounted to 43·2 millions with a value of no less than ₹1,011·9 lakhs. This represents 6·4 per cent of the entire exports of Indian produce, and it places the trade among the most important. Of the total, 76·6 per cent were shipped from Calcutta, and of that total the United States took nearly 43 per cent or ₹432·46 lakhs, while Germany came second with ₹216·48 lakhs, and thereafter Italy with ₹84·67 lakhs, Austria-Hungary with ₹68·28 lakhs, France with ₹58·61 lakhs, and Spain with ₹30·06 lakhs. The predominance of the United States (where there has been such a shortage in leather supplies as to create a movement for abolition of the duties) was mainly in **skins,** of which from Calcutta alone she took 266,598 cwts out of a total of 347,238 cwts. Both in France and the United Kingdom the demand for raw skins has greatly gained in strength—the former country having taken 30,854 cwts against 14,183 in the previous year, and the United Kingdom 27,456 cwts in place of 17,978 cwts.

The following statement shows the exports of raw hides and raw skins in the past five years :—

| | *Hides* | | *Skins* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | ₹ | No. | ₹ |
| 1901-02 . . | 7,972,097 | 2,87,99,134 | 20,810,676 | 2,69,67,253 |
| 1902-03 . . | 8,210,524 | 3,01,76,046 | 18,820,523 | 2,51,93,622 |
| 1903-04 . . | 8,261,198 | 3,16,75 395 | 19,634,429 | 2,66,86,740 |
| 1904-05 . . | 8,722,520 | 3,70,87,322 | 22,889,526 | 3,34,58,063 |
| 1905-06 . . | 11,531,809 | 5,23,37,942 | 31,672,298 | 4,88,50,995 |

All the auguries are that the "pinch" in leather is likely to be felt for some time to come; and an attempt is being made in the home boot trade to exact a uniform 20 per cent increase of price in order that the expedient of lowering quality may not be resorted to. (See also p. 48.)

**Jute.**—On the average of the last three years the exports of raw jute represent some 21·8 per cent of the total value of Indian raw produce exported.

The growth of this export trade in the last six years is shown in the following statement of quantity and value, the unit in each case being 1,000. The percentage of quantitative increase or decrease is also given; and the rise in price and its accentuation in recent years is indicated by the average declared values which are stated in rupees and decimals of a rupee.

| | Quantity | Percentage variation | Value | Average value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | | ₹ | ₹ |
| 1900-01 . . . . . | 12,414 | +27·7 | 10,86,77 | 8·75 |
| 1901-02 . . . . . | 14,755 | +18·8 | 11,79,73 | 7·99 |
| 1902-03 . . . . . | 13,036 | —11·7 | 11,12,65 | 8·53 |
| 1903-04 . . . . . | 13,721 | +5·3 | 11,71,81 | 8·54 |
| 1904-05 . . . . . | 12,875 | —6·2 | 11,96,56 | 9·29 |
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 14,480 | +12·5 | 17,12,57 | 11·83 |

The largest percentage increase in quantity occurred in 1900-01 when the exports rose by 27·7 per cent; but the largest total exportation so far recorded

was attained in 1901-02 when the quantity shipped exceeded that exported in 1905-06. Yet the value of last year's shipments exceeded that of 1901-02 by ₹5,32,83,918 or more than 45 per cent. It exceeded that for 1904-05 by 43 per cent, and the average value at the same time rose by 27·3 per cent.

The estimated outturn of the jute crop in each of these six years is given below in thousands of cwts side by side with the estimated Indian consumption and the estimated balance available for export. These last should be compared with the figures of actual export.

| | Estimated outturn | Estimated Indian consumption | Estimated balance available for export |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts |
| 1900-01 | 23,307 | 9,974 | 13,333 |
| 1901-02 | 26,564 | 10,473 | 16,091 |
| 1902-03 | 23,489 | 11,116 | 12,373 |
| 1903-04 | 25,861 | 11,726 | 14,135 |
| 1904-05 | 26,429 | 12,405 | 14,024 |
| 1905-06 | 29,943 | 14,427 | 15,516 |

The exportable surplus from a given crop depends upon the local consumption; and, although jute manufactures will be dealt with in a later chapter, it is well to show in this connection the numbers of spindles and of looms in position in each of the last six years.

| | Spindles | | Looms | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percentage increase | Number | Percentage increase |
| 1900-01 | 317,348 | 7·47 | 15,340 | 8·65 |
| 1901-02 | 331,382 | 4·42 | 16,119 | 5·08 |
| 1902-03 | 352,214 | 6·28 | 17,189 | 6·64 |
| 1903-04 | 376,718 | 6·96 | 18,400 | 7·04 |
| 1904-05 | 409,170 | 8·61 | 19,991 | 8·65 |
| 1905-06 | 453,168 | 10·75 | 21,986 | 9 98 |

In 1884, when the Indian Jute Mills Association was formed, the number of looms was 6,337. It is estimated that in the season 1906 it is about 22,750. But the high cost of the raw material has restricted the local consumption so that in the last years it has not kept pace with the increase in the number of spindles.

During the year 1905-06 the prices (per bale of 400 lbs) on the 1st of each month were as follows :—

| 1905 | ₹ a. | 1905 | ₹ a. |
|---|---|---|---|
| April | no quotation | November | 43 8 |
| May | no quotation | December | 45 8 |
| June | no quotation | 1906 | |
| July | 41 0 | January | 47 0 |
| August | 46 0 | February | 50 0 |
| September | 39 0 | March | 48 8 |
| October | 42 0 | | |

Since that time it is stated that as much as ₹71 a bale has been paid. The average of the year is ₹44-11-7, which is 139 per cent of the average of the previous five years.

During the year under review 43·5 per cent of the exports of raw jute from India went to the United Kingdom whence nearly half of that quantity is distributed to other parts of the world. Germany takes directly from India 18·1 per cent, the United States nearly 14 per cent, France 10·9 per cent, Austria-Hungary 6 per cent, Italy 4·1 per cent and Spain 1·9 per cent. Exports from Madras increased from 1·4 per cent to 1·7 per cent of the total.

Allegations of the wetting and sanding of jute for the purpose of increasing its weight continue to be made, and it is asserted that the practice has reached a point injurious to the trade. A Bill has been drafted by the Association and submitted to Government. The principle on which it proceeds is that of holding the mere possession of adulterated jute to be criminal.

**The exports of seeds** represent 6·7 per cent of the entire exports of Indian produce. In 1905-06 their value amounted to R1,060·92 lakhs which marks a decline of 26·4 per cent as compared with the exports of the previous year.

| | Cwts (*Unit 1,000*) | R |
|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 | 22,965 | 16,77,92,684 |
| 1902-03 | 22,194 | 14,88,25,711 |
| 1903-04 | 24,681 | 14,51,58,299 |
| 1904-05 | 26,874 | 14,41,08,565 |
| 1905-06 | 17,576 | 10,60,92,267 |

These latter had however been the largest on record. The exports of the principal descriptions of seed are shown below, the values in 1905-06 being as follows: linseed R411·55 lakhs, sesamum R146·93 lakhs, Rapeseed R121·79 lakhs, cotton seed R102·18 lakhs, castor R78·67 lakhs, and poppy R60·22 lakhs.

*Quantity of each seed* (*Unit 1,000 cwts*)

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Linseed | 7,328 | 6,328 | 8,616 | 11,182 | 5,789 |
| Rape | 6,925 | 3,927 | 4,343 | 5,155 | 1,994 |
| Cotton | 2,036 | 3,974 | 2,677 | 2,529 | 3,891 |
| Sesamum | 2,447 | 3,733 | 3,513 | 2,517 | 1,685 |
| Earthnuts | 1,085 | 1,036 | 1,922 | 1,674 | 1,374 |
| Castor | 1,324 | 1,752 | 1,567 | 1,461 | 1,299 |
| Poppy | 934 | 966 | 1,315 | 1,363 | 797 |

Of the total, Bombay shipped R611·79 lakhs or 57·7 per cent, Calcutta 232·17 lakhs or 21·9 per cent, and Karachi R109·65 lakhs or 10·3 per cent. Linseed goes chiefly to the United Kingdom, Germany, and France; rapeseed to Germany and Belgium; sesamum and poppyseed to France and Belgium; cotton seed to the United Kingdom; castor to United Kingdom; and earthnuts to France.

Of **Linseed** it is roughly estimated that only about 6 per cent of a normal crop is retained for local consumption, and yet the difference shown by the following figures was only about 3 per cent. The crop in 1905 was estimated at only 298,400 tons, and exports amounted to 289,443 tons against 559,100 tons in the previous year, which however was a record. The decline in exports was one of 48·2 per cent and would probably have been greater if the failure in the United Provinces had not been to some extent made good by the increased yield in Hyderabad, Berars and the Central Provinces, and if the reported shortage in the Argentine crop had not led to a smart rise in prices. It is estimated that Argentine shipments in 1905 amounted to only 650,000 tons against 908,900 in 1904.

In the case of **Rapeseed** there were no such compensating conditions. Up to the end of January the prospects of the crop had been excellent, with the result that stocks were freely marketed and depleted. Severe frosts in the beginning of February destroyed a great part of the crop in the United Provinces, while the phenomenal outturn of the Danubian crop prevented any proportionate

rally in prices. The total estimated outturn in India was only 540,400 tons, and the exports declined by 61·3 per cent to 99,684 tons. Towards the close of the financial year however a strong position developed as a consequence of reported deficiencies in the Indian crops and the absence of any compensating conditions in competing countries. The average values of linseed and rapeseed showed advances of 25·6 per cent and 15·1 per cent, respectively, as compared with those of 1904-05.

The shortage in rapeseed led to an acute internal demand for **Sesamum** and occasioned great embarrassment to shippers; and, since in this case also the favourable nature of the crop prospects had led to depletion of available stocks, the exports which declined by 28 per cent in 1904-05 underwent a further contraction of 33 per cent making a total of 52 per cent in two years. The average value rose by 26·3 per cent.

The recognition of the richness of Indian **Cotton seed** in oil and of its merits as a material for cattle-feed has led to a steady growth in the exports, which in 1905-06 rose to 194,567 tons with a value of R1,02,17,600. The increase in quantity was thus one of 53·87 per cent and in value 65·8 per cent, which marks a rise of 7·75 per cent in specific value; and all indications point to a development of the trade.

**Poppyseed** declined 41·5 per cent in quantity and 23·2 per cent in value, and it is very possible this article may be affected by the popularity of cotton seed. The price of **Castor seed** continues to rise; and while the total quantity exported receded by 11·1 per cent, the total value advanced by 13·7 per cent, the increase in average value thus being 28 per cent. Disease among **Earthnuts** and various other factors have led to continuous abandonment of this crop in favour of others more immediately profitable; and the exports registered a further decline of 18 per cent. A large proportion of the exports of earthnuts from India is shipped from the French port of Pondicherry, and so escapes registration in the trade of British India. In 1904-05 the exports from Pondicherry amounted to 1,284,656 cwts with a value of R85·9 lakhs as against 1,276,706 cwts and R64·4 lakhs in 1903-04.

**Silk.**—In 1905-06 there was an improvement in the trade in all classes of raw silk, which, collectively, rose 32·4 per cent in quantity and 13·5 per cent in value. The exports of reeled mulberry silk increased 13·3 per cent in quantity —from 487,031 lbs to 551,546 lbs—and 11·3 per cent in value, from R41,68,426 to R46,28,361. The difference in the proportion of increase between quantity and value indicates a fall of 1·94 per cent in the average price per lb—from R8-8-11 to R8-6-3. While the exports from Bengal of this class of raw silk (reeled mulberry) showed an improvement from 389,089 lbs valued at R30,93,376 in 1904-05 to 459,160 lbs valued at R36,26,111 in 1905-06, there was a further decline in the exports from Bombay, from 97,942 lbs valued at R10,75,050 to 92,386 lbs valued at R10,02,250. The distribution of the exports of reeled silk (mulberry and wild combined) was as follows in 1905-06:

| | lbs | R |
|---|---|---|
| To the United Kingdom . . . . | 220,692 | 20,37,112 |
| „ France . . . . . | 304,699 | 22,65,374 |
| „ the United States . . . . . | 33,426 | 2,67,501 |
| „ Other countries . . . . | 19,633 | 1,62,845 |

The exports of waste silk (chasam)—more than half of which was wild silk—rose in 1905-06 to 1,131,960 lbs valued at R8,43,059 from 751,355 lbs valued at R6,40,957 in 1904-05. The average price per lb therefore fell from

13·6 annas to 11·9 annas. The exports of cocoons, however, three-fourths of which were wild, fell from 85,990 lbs valued at ₹79,837 to 68,906 lbs valued at ₹63,788. The average price per lb of cocoons remained the same, *viz.*, 14·8 annas.

**Teak Timber**—A great expansion in ship-building and in some other branches of construction in the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States, has synchronised with a contraction in the available supplies of Teak and has induced a rise of price—in some cases prohibitive. The average price in 1904-05 at Calcutta was ₹111 to ₹116 per ton of 50 cubic feet. In 1905-06, it was ₹120 to ₹125. Exports of Teak have increased in quantity by 12·5 per cent to 53,000 cubic tons and in value by 17·25 per cent to ₹70·4 lakhs. But the difference between these two percentage rates of increase does not gauge the enhancement in average value of a uniform quality of timber, for it is understood that a good deal of inferior wood has gone forward in the twelve months under report. Exports from Burma to India proper decreased by a further 5·9 per cent and reached a value of only ₹71,30,683, while imports into India from Siam and Java increased by some 34·7 per cent to a total of ₹57 lakhs. But, as was pointed out last year, practically the whole of the teak trade in the north of Siam is controlled by British Companies.

**Wool.**—In spite of such an increase in Europe's supply of wool from the Colonies and River Plate as made good the deficiency in the previous year, the activity in the textile trade induced a general rise in the price of the raw material and an expansion of the Indian exports. These reached 42·5 million lbs, with a value of 211·47 lakhs, in 1905-06, which marks an advance of 10·2 per cent on the figure for the previous year and establishes a progressive record for the third year in succession. The United Kingdom took wool to the value of ₹200·57 lakhs as against ₹171 lakhs in 1904-05, while the exports to the United States receded to ₹4·5 lakhs and those to Japan to ₹4·6 lakhs. Re-exports of foreign wool continue to contract and are now at 5 million lbs; but it is probable that some of the wool exported as Indian came from beyond the land frontiers.

The **other principal raw materials** exported have in the last three years been as follows:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | ₹ | ₹ |
| Animal bones | 41,57,119 | 37,51,480 | 49,78,778 |
| Oil-cake | 39,18,460 | 43,08,621 | 68,98,380 |
| Rice-bran | 42,00,595 | 44,00,086 | 55,41,825 |
| Hemp | 48,53,830 | 44,81,304 | 54,19,756 |
| Bristles and Fibre | 20,76,331 | 18,39,854 | 21,51,028 |
| Horns | 12,05,798 | 13,72,375 | 17,49,944 |
| Mica | 12,94,453 | 14,68,986 | 23,94,413 |

The most important increase is that of 33 per cent in **Bones** which advanced by ₹12·27 lakhs and approached the ₹54·98 lakhs registered in 1902-03. This trade naturally tends to keep pace with those in hides and horns, the latter of which increased by ₹3·78 lakhs or nearly 28 per cent. **Rice-bran** increased by ₹11·42 lakhs and **Oil-cake** by ₹25·9 lakhs. A notable advance is that in **Hemp.** There are various indications of an increased interest in Indian hemp abroad. The expansion in **Mica** shipments is remarkable and is due to large shipments of mica clippings and dust from Madras. It represented an advance of 609·5 per cent in quantity and 63 per cent in value, the decrease in average value thus being 77 per cent. **Caoutchouc,** which increased in value by 163 per

cent in 1904-05 recorded a further advance of 40·6 per cent and attained a total value of ₹12·82 lakhs with a substantial gain in specific value. **Stick Lac** which increased in value by about 188 per cent in 1904-05 advanced further by 52·8 per cent to a total of ₹4·9 lakhs.

## ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

The statement below shows the comparative value (in rupees) for the past five years of each principal class of manufactures :

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | Ratio per cent of increase over the value of 1904-05 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton yarn and goods . | 10,86,53,008 | 10,00,76,891 | 10,47,23,079 | 11,64,31,908 | 14,42,54,998 | 23·9 |
| Jute goods . . . | 8,71,14,174 | 9,01,98,987 | 9,46,91,969 | 9,93,88,676 | 12,44,79,844 | 25·25 |
| Tanned hides and skins . | 2,65,40,461 | 2,89,81,166 | 3,09,88,759 | 2,85,17,173 | 3,63,82,203 | 27·58 |
| Lac . . . . | 95,45,409 | 1,80,75,444 | 2,67,99,706 | 2,98,23,017 | 3,10,21,548 | 4·02 |
| Coir . . . . | 37,73,820 | 45,76,348 | 47,90,110 | 51,65,698 | 54,16,766 | 4·86 |
| Woollens . . . | 26,97,670 | 25,15,715 | 27,42,799 | 22,67,481 | 20,75,344 | —8·47 |
| Apparel . . . | 20,99,657 | 26,44,959 | 21,99,556 | 18,78,706 | 19,42,028 | 3·37 |
| Silks . . . . | 10,54,694 | 9,48,851 | 8,32,669 | 7,30,602 | 7,15,109 | —2·12 |
| Candles . . . | 49,703 | 4,41,863 | 9,05,521 | 9,48,156 | 16,53,646 | 74·41 |

There has been an improvement in every class except in **Silks** and **Woollens.** In the former class there has been a constant and steady decline for a large number of years, until the value of the exports of silk manufactures has now fallen so low as ₹7,15,109. The decline in Woollens should not be taken as indicating a set-back in the industry ; but is understood to be due to a strong internal demand. The class in which there has been the most marked improvement is **Candles** the value of which in 1900-01 was only ₹15,157, while five years later (1905-06) it rose to ₹16,53,646, an increase of over a hundred-fold. The increase in the value of the whole group was 21·5 per cent, while the value itself represented 22·5 per cent of the total value of exported merchandise. It should be remembered, in drawing any conclusions from the figures, that there are many manufactured and partly manufactured articles which are not included in this group in the accounts. They are, from their nature, more properly included in the other groups of articles. For instance, milled-rice, wheat-flours, coffee, and tea are included in the group "Articles of Food and Drink"; machinery is included in the group "Metals", saltpetre in "Chemicals", opium and tobacco in "Narcotics", indigo in "Dyes", and vegetable and mineral oils under the group "Oils". The group "Articles manufactured and partly manufactured" contains such manufactured and partly manufactured articles as cannot be included under one of the other main groups of arricles.

**Exports of Cotton Manufactures** showed extraordinary expansion in response to the restoration of peace in the Far East, the opening of markets rendered bare by a series of unfavourable years, and a return of prices, both of the raw material and of the finished articles, to favourable levels. The following are the quantities and values of yarns and piece-goods exported in the last five years :

| | Yarn | | Piece-goods | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | (unit 1,000 lbs) | ₹ | (unit 1,000 yds.) | ₹ |
| 1901-02 . . | 272,468 | 9,31,66,944 | 72,625 | 1,42,54,982 |
| 1902-03 . . | 248,539 | 8,54,00,344 | 69,535 | 1,32,75,431 |
| 1903-04 . . | 252,474 | 8,84,15,431 | 75,815 | 1,48,30,434 |
| 1904-05 . . | 247,855 | 9,81,56,814 | 87,456 | 1,65,14,451 |
| 1905-06 . . | 297,634 | 12,38,76,874 | 91,975 | 1,86,58,721 |

It will be seen that in both classes of goods the figures attained in 1905-06 are unprecedented. Yarn represents nearly 85·87 per cent of the total value,

and has shown an increase of no less than 26·2 per cent in 1905-06, which corresponds approximately with the estimated rate of increase in the exports of cotton goods from the United Kingdom in 1905. The quantitative increase in the exports of Indian yarn was about 20 per cent, so that the rise in specific value was one of 5·1 per cent. The exports to China, which represented some 94·3 per cent of the total value, showed an increase of ₹269 lakhs, thus constituting 104·6 per cent of the total increase of the year and marking an addition of 29·93 per cent to the figure of the previous year. The figures for the Straits Settlements show a slight contraction at 6,490,200 lbs or 2·2 per cent of the total. This is no doubt a result of the exceptionally healthy state of the trade and consequent increase of shipment direct to ultimate destinations.

The trade to the Levant, which had developed well two years ago, has been neglected in favour of the larger markets and has shrunk to some 689,700 lbs, while Egypt took only 836,800 lbs and European Turkey 63,080 lbs.

The exports of piece-goods increased by ₹21·44 lakhs or about 12·98 per cent. This is a lower rate of expansion than that shown by yarns, but the fact is due to no deficiency of demand but to the incapacity of the Indian weaving mills to increase their output commensurately. The quantitative increase was one of 5·17 per cent so that the increase in specific value amounted to 7·43 per cent.

The exports of Grey goods amounted to 55,822,652 yards with a value of ₹78·9 lakhs. This represents 42·27 per cent of the total value of piece-goods and marks an increase of 5·6 per cent in quantity and 10·6 per cent in value with a rise of 4·8 per cent in specific value.

Coloured goods again increased 14·6 per cent in value to ₹106·7 lakhs and in quantity by 3·8 per cent to 35,760,000 yards.

The shipments of Grey goods to China alone advanced by no less than 24·3 per cent in quantity and 21·2 per cent in value, the total being 12,824,000 yards and ₹18·87 lakhs. But the main markets for Indian cloth are found in East Africa, Aden, Red Sea ports, Abyssinia, the Persian Gulf, Ceylon, and the Straits; while dyed and printed cloths go, mainly from Madras, to the two last and the Philippines. Madras also sends handkerchiefs and shawls to the diminished value of ₹8·51 lakhs almost wholly to the United Kingdom.

The production of yarn and cloth in the Indian mills in thousands of pounds was:

| *Yarn* | *Bombay* | *Elsewhere* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 | 415,628 | 157,910 | 572,938 |
| 1902-03 | 419,526 | 156,168 | 575,694 |
| 1903-04 | 414,932 | 163,827 | 578,759 |
| 1904-05 | 422,249 | 156,132 | 578,381 |
| 1905-06 | 491,609 | 189,310 | 680,919 |
| *Cloth* | | | |
| 1901-02 | 98,546 | 21,105 | 119,651 |
| 1902-03 | 100,466 | 22,110 | 122,576 |
| 1903-04 | 112,717 | 25,327 | 138,044 |
| 1904-05 | 130,998 | 27,749 | 158,747 |
| 1905-06 | 131,898 | 31,982 | 163,880 |

Additions to **spindles** have amounted in all to 37,454 of which 7,359 are in Bombay, 22,823 were in Bengal, and 6,222 in Madras. In **looms** the additions were 4,976 of which 4,474 were in Bombay. And since it may be assumed that every spindle and loom has worked to its utmost output during the exceptional year under review it is possible to compute for the first time that the average

capacity per spindle and per loom respectively under Indian conditions is 131·77 lbs of yarn or 3,221·29 lbs of cloth per annum.

Exports of **Jute Manufactures** increased largely both in quantity and value, as may be seen from the appended statement which shows details regarding bags, cloth, and the total value. This latter includes for 1905-06 ₹5 lakhs of rope and twine, ₹44,000 of twist and yarn and ₹1 lakh of other kinds.

(Unit 1,000)

| | | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags | No. | 230,127 | 225,196 | 206,208 | 201,436 | 233,326 |
| | ₹ | 4,72,58 | 4,64,07 | 4,56,47 | 4,75,54 | 6,07,84 |
| Cloth | yards | 418,567 | 492,884 | 552,320 | 575,512 | 658,671 |
| | ₹ | 3,89,40 | 4,31,47 | 4,84,53 | 5,11,61 | 6,30,50 |
| Value of all sorts | ₹ | 8,71,14 | 9,01,99 | 9,46,92 | 9,93,89 | 12,44,80 |

Particulars about the supply and prices of the raw material and about the numbers of spindles and looms in position will be found in the section dealing with the exports of raw jute. The continuous rise of the said prices seriously affected the working of those mills that were not well covered; and the shortage of labour in the hot weather led to the appointment of a Government Commission of enquiry. But plant was largely augmented and the aggregate production reached a level never before attained. The exports of **bags** developed by 15·8 per cent in quantity and 27·8 per cent in value, the enhancement of specific value thus being 10·35 per cent. Cloth increased by 14·45 per cent in quantity and 23·24 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being one of 7·66 per cent. Against these figures must be set the fact cited elsewhere that the specific value of the raw material exported increased by 27·3 per cent.

The shortage in the Indian wheat shipments diminished the country demand for bags and the quantitative increase in the exports was greater in bags than in cloth, the strong demand from Australasia, Chile, etc., maintaining values. The total values of the two classes continue to be nearly equal. The most marked advance in the shipments to any one country was in those to Australasia which, with its large wheat crop and its inadequate supply of manufacturing labour, took ready-made bags to the value of ₹141·5 lakhs, which represent an advance of 51·3 per cent on the ₹93·5 lakhs of 1904-05. Chile, with the assistance of certain new shipping arrangements, assumed for the first time a position above that of the United Kingdom and took bags worth ₹64·25 lakhs. The increase here is one of 35·6 per cent which, calculated on the figures enhanced by 66 per cent in 1904-05, makes a total advance of 125 per cent in two years.

The trade with the United Kingdom and Germany, which might have been expected to suffer from the growth of direct shipments to places formerly supplied from these centres, increased respectively from ₹54·75 lakhs to ₹63·2 lakhs and from ₹7·75 lakhs to ₹8·8 lakhs. The Straits Settlements' trade, which also is largely for distribution, increased from ₹44 lakhs to ₹52·4 lakhs and that of China from ₹44 lakhs to ₹46 lakhs due to the elevation of prices. Egypt probably suffered from the growth to be noticed in the direct shipments to the Levant, but her trade increased from ₹41·25 lakhs to ₹49·36 lakhs.

There is a heavy duty in the United States on imports of made bags and that country in 1905-06 took of this class of goods only ₹16·2 lakhs which is little more than the figure attained in the previous year.

Of **cloth** however she bought 419·5 million yards with a total value of ₹378 lakhs. This represents 63·7 per cent of the total exports of cloth, and marks a quantitative advance of 19·1 per cent on the figures of the previous year.

The exports of cloth to the Argentine and Uruguay showed a quantitative decline but an advance in value from ₹147·9 lakhs to ₹151·8 lakhs, which represents about 24·1 per cent of the total; while the value of the bags taken by the Argentine alone advanced from ₹2 to ₹4·4 lakhs.

Exports of cloth to the United Kingdom, which, like the bags, are mainly for distribution, rose from ₹19·75 lakhs to ₹42·87 lakhs, while China increased her purchases by about 50 per cent to ₹24·32 lakhs and Australasia in addition to its large quantities of bags took cloth to an enhanced value of ₹17 lakhs.

The exports of **Silk Manufactures** continue to decline, and their value now amounts to only ₹7,15,109 which is 2 per cent less than in the previous year. The exports are chiefly tissues woven in Bengal from indigenous silks. Elsewhere the industry is conducted mainly for the Indian market.

Exports of **Woollen Manufactures** in 1905-06 declined by 8·5 per cent to a value of ₹20,75,344. Carpets and Rugs form the most important class and represent some 92·2 per cent of the total. They showed a very slight rise at ₹19·1 lakhs, of which ₹13·9 lakhs went to the United Kingdom and ₹4 lakhs to the United States. Piece-goods and other miscellaneous manufactures receded by 56 per cent, that is to say from ₹3·7 to ₹1·6 lakhs, which is slightly higher than in 1903-04; but this decline indicates no failure in the industry but a stronger internal demand. Indeed it may here be noted that in 1905-06 the production in woollen mills in India amounted to 4,126,937 lbs with a value of ₹44,28,887, thus marking a quantitative increase of more than 17 per cent and the highest total so far attained.

The exports of **apparel** increased in value from ₹18·79 lakhs in 1904-05 to ₹19·4 in 1905-06; while boots and shoes of Indian manufacture, which form the most important sub-head in this class, increased from ₹4·69 lakhs to ₹4·9 lakhs. In 1902-03 the value was swelled by exports to South Africa to ₹10·6 lakhs. That trade is gone for the present; but there is a noticeable growth in the shipments to China where a large market might be found for foot-gear of a suitable kind. Re-exports of foreign boots and shoes usually amount to about ₹50,000.

**Coir.**—The trade in matting and other manufactures of coir is almost entirely in the hands of Madras, and the exports continue their steady growth. Their value now amounts to ₹54·17 lakhs, of which the United Kingdom takes ₹17·69 lakhs, Germany 16·2, Belgium 5·2, France 4, Holland 3·96, and the United States 2·1.

**Hides and Skins, tanned.**—The unprecedented activity in the leather trade of the world during the twelve months under review has occasioned a remarkable increase in the quantity of tanned hides exported and a notable rise in the average values of both tanned hides and skins. The exports of tanned hides increased from 123,390 cwts with a value of ₹82·52 lakhs to 201,982 cwts with a value of ₹154·8 lakhs. These figures mark an advance of 63·7 per cent in quantity, 87·6 per cent in value, and of 14·6 per cent in average value in addition to that of 14 per cent recorded in 1904-05. The only year in which the tanned hide exports of 1905-06 were exceeded was 1900-01, when drought occasioned great mortality among the cattle; but on that occasion the average value per cwt of hides stood at ₹57-10-0 as compared with ₹76-10-3 in 1905-06. Quantitatively the export of tanned skins was less than in 1904-05; but the decline of about 1·2 per cent was accompanied by a rise in total value of 3·1 per cent. The average value per cwt of skins in 1905-06 was ₹151-14-3 as compared with ₹140-10-6 in 1900-01. It must, however, be borne in mind

that these two classes of hides and skins comprise many diverse qualities and that these vary in relative quantity from year to year, so that it is not permissible to regard these fluctuations in average value with such reliance as is warranted in the case of a single article or a homogeneous and constant group of articles. The exports during the past six years have been:

| | Tanned Hides | | Tanned Skins | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | Cwts | ₹ |
| 1900-01 . . | 254,755 | 1,46,80,048 | 215,148 | 3,02,61,805 |
| 1901-02 . . | 134,249 | 76,70,877 | 132,193 | 1,88,69,584 |
| 1902-03 . . . | 107,879 | 62,84,922 | 149,299 | 2,26,96,944 |
| 1903-04 . . | 102,625 | 61,45,989 | 161,869 | 2,48,42,770 |
| 1904-05 . . | 123,390 | 82,52,052 | 139,214 | 2,02,65,121 |
| 1905-06 . . | 201,982 | 1,54,80,070 | 137,613 | 2,09,02,133 |

Of hides, Madras exported 88 per cent of the total and Bombay 11 per cent whilst the shares of these two provinces in the skin shipment were, respectively, 73 per cent and 24 per cent.

In the absence of any protective tariff the United Kingdom continues to take the greater part of the tanned hides and skins; but in the past year America has taken a considerably larger share of the hides, and Britain's percentage in this department has declined from 80 to 77·5 per cent while in skins it has advanced from 90 to 93·6 per cent, this being ascribed to the demand for motor padding and clothing. As illustrating the extent to which transhipment of hides is made from the United Kingdom to America, it may be mentioned that the report of the British Consul at Chicago for 1905 records 27,269 tons received from India, 22,960 tons from United Kingdom, and 33,611 tons from South America. (See also p. 40.)

**Lac** is one of the articles for which the demand has grown steadily in recent years and has become marked in 1905-06 as a consequence of activity in the electrical and certain other industries. Like all destructible articles of relatively high specific value, it is a subject of speculation; and this element in the trade is intensified by the facts that the article is of precarious supply, being in fact a forest produce of insect origin and so exposed to influences of weather. The price fluctuates greatly but within narrower limits as the demand defines itself. There has for three years been a marked upward tendency; and in response to the net enhancement the exports have grown largely. The following statement collates the figures relating to shellac and button-lac with those relating to stick and seed lac which belong strictly to the category of raw materials. Neither quantitatively nor in respect of specific value is the raw material comparable with the prepared article; but it is interesting to note (*a*) the total values of the two classes, and (*b*) the quantitative advance or decline in each of the two classes respectively as indicating the course of the local industry.

| | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | Cwts | ₹ | Cwts | ₹ |
| Shellac . . | 178,497 | 2,18,30,905 | 193,305 | 2,58,93,713 | 217,593 | 2,64,53,774 |
| Button-lac . | 50,500 | 49,35,903 | 34,276 | 38,70,479 | 41,851 | 44,41,287 |
| Total . | 228,997 | 2,67,66,808 | 227,581 | 2,97,64,192 | 259,444 | 3,08,95,061 |
| Stick and seed lac . . | 6,383 | 4,39,264 | 11,152 | 9,41,104 | 11,004 | 7,79,613 |

It will be seen that exports of shellac increased in quantity by 12·56 per cent and in value by 21·63 per cent, while button-lac increased by 22·1 per cent in quantity and 14·75 per cent in value. Together the two increased by 14 per

cent in quantity and 3·8 per cent in value, the fall in average value thus being 8·95 per cent. On the other hand the raw material declined by 1·3 per cent in quantity and 17·16 per cent in value. The highest price for shellac in the year under report was R140-3 per cwt in February 1906, and the lowest R88-8 per cwt in June 1905. There appears to be among persons in the trade some misgiving as to whether the high level of recent prices has not induced reckless gathering with consequent danger to succeeding crops.

In the past year the United States has assumed the first place as a buyer of lac from India, her total being now R149·52 lakhs as against R94·24 lakhs shipped to the United Kingdom and R44 lakhs to Germany.

**General distribution of the export trade.**—The value of the exports of Indian produce and manufactures in the last five years was distributed, in the ratios stated below, among the principal countries with which the trade is carried on:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . | 25·1 | 25·2 | 27·1 | 27·5 | 25·3 |
| China . . . . | 14·5 | 12·6 | 11·9 | 12·6 | 13·5 |
| Germany . . . . | 8·4 | 8 | 9·9 | 9·2 | 8·9 |
| United States . . . | 6·9 | 6·7 | 6 | 6·3 | 8·2 |
| Japan . . . . | 5·7 | 4·6 | 5·6 | 6·3 | 6·3 |
| France . . . . | 7·3 | 7·2 | 6·6 | 6·2 | 5·9 |
| Belgium . . . . | 3·9 | 3·9 | 5·1 | 5·4 | 4·0 |
| Straits Settlements . . | 5·2 | 6 | 4·8 | 4·1 | 3·9 |
| Ceylon . . . . | 3·7 | 3·5 | 3 | 3·2 | 3·5 |
| Italy . . . . . | 2·4 | 2·7 | 3·3 | 2·7 | 2·9 |
| Austria-Hungary . . | 2 | 2·5 | 3·2 | 3 | 2·8 |
| Egypt . . . . | 4·4 | 6·1 | ·9 | ·8 | 2·2 |

Egypt, which in 1902-03 was sixth in the list, fell to the last place in 1903-04 in consequence of the change made in crediting to the countries of final destination, instead of to Egypt, the large shipments of produce, principally rice nd wheat, originally consigned to Port Said to await orders for delivery. This last position she has retained for three consecutive years. It is probable also that the percentage of China, which has been steadily second, will be affected considerably when the exports, now being recorded with reference to country of destination, come to be scrutinised; for both Singapore and Hong-Kong are transhipment ports for the Eastern trade. The relative position of the countries remained practically unchanged in 1905-06.

The United Kingdom of course continued to be a long way ahead of any other country, but its proportion to the total export trade fell from 27·5 per cent to 25·3 per cent, a relative decline of 2·2 per cent. Italy and Austria-Hungary changed places owing to a proportionately larger increase in the exports to the former country.

## CUSTOMS REVENUE

The only important change made during 1905-06 in the tariff was the raising, by Act I of 1906, of the rates of import duty on ordinary spirits from R6 to R7 per imperial gallon and on liquors and perfumed spirits to a rate corresponding with that on ordinary spirits.

The additional import duty on bounty-fed sugar imposed under section 8-A of the Indian Tariff Act was reduced, with effect from the 6th September 1905, from R15-3-10 to R10-15-8 on "all kinds" of sugar produced in, or imported from, the Argentine Republic; whilst that imposed on sugar produced in, or imported from, Denmark and Chile remained the same. The special duties

to countervail bounties on sugar created by private trade combination, which had been imposed under section 8-B of the same Act, remained the same in respect of sugar from Denmark and Russia; but in the case of sugar from the Argentine Republic were, with effect also from 6th September 1905, revised thus:

In place of the two kinds of sugar, "Refined" and "Unrefined," with rates of special duty at ₹5-7-5 and ₹4-0-8 per cwt, respectively, three kinds were substituted:

(1) Refined sugar or sugar polarising 96° and more was charged with a special duty of ₹6-0-2 per cwt.

(2) Unrefined sugar or sugar polarising less than 96° with a special duty of ₹4-8-9.

(3) Sugar Candy with a special duty of ₹3-2-9 per cwt.

The only alterations made in the rules in 1905-06 for the identification of sugar chargeable with an additional or special duty was the addition of a clause (4) to rule 7 by which, in any case referred to in clause 2 of rule 7 the sugar is alleged to be the produce of a country which is a party to the Brussels Sugar Convention of 1902, a certificate granted by a duly authorised Customs Officer of that country as to the origin of that sugar shall be accepted as sufficient proof of its origin.

There were no exemptions from import duty notified in 1905-06; but modifications were made in the rules for the exemption of passengers' baggage from Customs duty and came into force on 1st January 1906. The tariff valuations for assessment to duty were as usual revised in December 1905 and a new Schedule of valuations was issued with effect from 1st January 1906.

The **gross revenue** from imports was ₹5,00,89,113 in 1905-06 whilst refunds and drawbacks were ₹7,40,552, thus leaving the **net revenue** at ₹4,93,48,561. The duty on salt (₹183 lakhs in 1905-06 compared with ₹235 lakhs in 1904-05) is not included in the above figures for it is not credited as a customs receipt. The gross revenue increased 2·6 per cent, having been ₹4,88,36,084 in 1904-05, whilst the net revenue increased 2·7 per cent, having been ₹4,80,33,912 in 1904-05. There was a decline to the extent of 7·7 per cent in the refunds and drawbacks.

The principal items from which the customs revenue is derived are as follows:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Articles of food and drink:* | ₹ | ₹ | ₹ |
| Spirit | 75,16,845 | 76,58,725 | 90,31,698 |
| Sugar | 31,61,415 | 32,70,731 | 39,92,987 |
| Provisions | 6,15,469 | 6,33,529 | 6,86,053 |
| Spices | 4,11,734 | 5,32,358 | 5,61,455 |
| *Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, dyes:* | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, narcotics | 5,46,851 | 5,73,854 | 6,01,821 |
| Chemicals | 3,42,890 | 3,66,000 | 3,67,053 |
| Dyes and tans | 4,92,320 | 4,50,288 | 4,79,594 |
| *Metals and articles made of metals:* | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 11,72,396 | 12,20,000 | 12,49,752 |
| Copper and brass | 11,04,258 | 10,76,285 | 7,16,350 |
| Iron and steel | 7,06,153 | 7,06,357 | 7,27,195 |
| Silver | 40,27,356 | 41,11,977 | 29,33,850 |
| *Manufactures of cotton:* | | | |
| Piece goods: grey (unbleached) | 45,74,785 | 56,46,824 | 64,92,338 |
| „ white (bleached) | 21,56,913 | 28,72,855 | 29,36,490 |
| „ coloured | 27,91,707 | 31,64,621 | 33,19,833 |
| *Oils:* | | | |
| Petroleum | 43,99,912 | 45,88,289 | 36,64,723 |

Of the other articles enumerated in the tariff schedules, the three mentioned below yield individually a revenue of some consequence :

| | ₹ | ₹ | ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel . . . . | 9,18,753 | 10,26,137 | 10,39,580 |
| Silk and articles made of silk . | 12,09,492 | 14,38,006 | 13,14,752 |
| Woollen goods . . . | 10,80,195 | 15,39,361 | 12,10,741 |

The revenue realised on the 18 articles enumerated above aggregates 82·5 per cent of the total revenue realised and if the revenue on eight other articles, namely, arms and ammunition, carriages (including motor cars and cycles), cotton manufactures (other than piece-goods), fruits and vegetables, instruments, paper and pasteboard, wines, and wood and timber, each of which yield between ₹3¾ and 5 lakhs and jointly ₹34,55,945, be added the share of the 26 articles in the total is 89·4 per cent. The above figures show that although the Indian Tariff comprises a lengthy list of dutiable articles there are comparatively only a few on which individually any revenue of importance is collected : these are spirituous liquor, petroleum, sugar, metals, (including silver) and cotton piece-goods. On these the duties realised approached three-fourths of the total.

The import rate of duty on cotton goods is 3½ per cent *ad valorem*, and the total duty realised thereon in 1905-06 amounted to ₹132·89 lakhs or 26·5 per cent of the whole Customs Revenue. On most classes of iron and steel the rate of duty is only 1 per cent. On such other articles as are dutiable at a general *ad valorem* rate, that rate is, with two exceptions, 5 per cent. The exceptions are vinegar in casks and green copperas on each of which the duty is 2½ per cent.

The export Tariff Schedule is limited to rice and rice flour, the duty on which is levied at the rate of three annas per maund of 82⅔ lbs. The net duty realised in 1905-06 was ₹1,12,66,983 against ₹1,28,75,997 in 1904-05 (a record year) and represent a fall of ₹16 lakhs or 12·5 per cent, the decline corresponding, of course, with the decline in the exports of wheat.

A customs duty (known as the Tea Cess) at the rate of a quarter of a pie per pound, was levied from the 1st April 1903 on all tea the produce of India and exported from any customs port to any port beyond the limits of British India. The collections realised are paid to a committee constituted to receive and expend the proceeds of this cess on measures for promoting the sale and consumption of Indian-produced tea. The collections since the institution of the cess have been as follows :

| | ₹ |
|---|---|
| 1903-04 . . | 2,80,843 |
| 1904-05 . . | 3,04,434 |
| 1905-06 . . | 3,11,613 |

## BALANCE OF TRADE

The excess of exports over imports, including treasure as well as merchandise, for each of the last six years was (in thousands of rupees) :

| | Including Government transactions. | Excluding Government transactions. |
|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . . . . . | 16,47,46 | 22,10,20 |
| 1901-02 . . . . . | 26,98,43 | 31,76,01 |
| 1902-03 . . . . . | 27,85,62 | 33,58,17 |
| 1903-04 . . . . . | 37,44,27 | 44,34,24 |
| 1904-05 . . . . . | 30,21,62 | 35,77,13 |
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 33,54,09 | 44,61,01 |

In the same period the drawings of the Secretary of State in Council Bills have been:

| | £ | Exchange, pence | ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . . . | 13,300,276 | 15·973 | =19,98,38 |
| 1901-02 . . . | 18,539,071* | 15·987 | =27,83,02 |
| 1902-03 . . . | 18,499,947* | 16·002 | =27,74,67 |
| 1903-04 . . . | 23,859,303* | 16·049 | =35,67,95 |
| 1904-05 . . . | 24,425,558* | 16·045 | =36,53,57 |
| 1905-06 . . . | 31,566,972* | 16·042 | =47,22,65 |

The excess of exports, including Government transactions, rose from ₹3,021·62 lakhs in 1904-05 to ₹3,354·09 lakhs in 1905-06, the increase of ₹667·53 lakhs being almost as much above the 1904-05 surplus as the latter was below that for 1903-04. In striking the balance of India's trade it must be remembered that the figures quoted above represent only the registered trade and that only at British-Indian ports. Some adjustments have therefore to be made on account of the unregistered trade and the trade of the French and Portuguese Settlements in India. The unregistered trade consists largely of trade carried on (chiefly by native craft from ports in the Native States on the West Coast of India) with Persia, Arabia, and Ceylon; and it is supposed that the exports therefrom greatly exceed the imports thereto. The value of the large re-exports of pearls from Bombay is also not registered, as the pearls are sent away from India by letter post; and the trade is therefore not recorded. The trade of the French Settlements for the five years ending 1904-05 (the statistics for 1905-06 have not yet been received) has been:

| | Imports ₹ | Exports ₹ | Excess of exports ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1900-01 . . . | 14,86,630 | 54,89,488 | 40,02,858 |
| 1901-02 . . . | 13,61,496 | 1,39,35,776 | 1,25,72,280 |
| 1902-03 . . . | 17,36,236 | 1,19,40,994 | 1,02,04,758 |
| 1903-04 . . . | 37,37,708 | 96,75,216 | 59,37,508 |
| 1904-05 . . . | 17,13,449 | 1,42,10,414 | 1,24,96,965 |

The trade of the Portuguese Settlements for the five years ending 1903-04 (the statistics for 1904-05 and 1905-06 have not yet been received) has been:

| | Imports ₹ | Exports ₹ | Excess of imports ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1899-1900 . . . . . | 1,49,503 | 49,594 | 99,909 |
| 1900-01 . . . . . | 1,47,053 | 48,994 | 98,059 |
| 1901-02 . . . . . | 2,67,399 | 36,000 | 2,31,399 |
| 1902-03 . . . . . | 2,15,718 | 1,58,147 | 57,571 |
| 1903-04 . . . . . | 1,44,216 | 2,42,510 | —98,294 |

It should also not be overlooked that the exports of Government Stores in some years—as for instance at the time of the South African War and the Somaliland Expedition—unduly swell the total exports from India; and that they are imperfectly recorded seeing that there is no obligation on the part of the officials concerned in the export of those stores to pass them through the Customs.

## GOLD AND SILVER

The value of the Imports, Exports, and Net Imports of Gold and of Silver in the last five years, in thousands of Rupees, was as follows:

*Gold*—

| | Imports | Exports | Net imports | *Production* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 . . | 8,30,75 | 6,36,99 | 1,93,76 | *2,86,99* |
| 1902-03 . . | 13,19,24 | 4,42,78 | 8,76,46 | *3,05,87* |
| 1903-04 . . | 20,14,79 | 10,21,62 | 9,93,17 | *3,51,30* |
| 1904-05 . . | 21,81,20 | 12,10,61 | 9,70,59 | *3,55,59* |
| 1905-06 . . | 14,74,90 | 14,29,10 | 45,80 | *3,58,76* |

* Inclusive of drawings on account of the Gold Reserve Fund

| *Silver*— | Imports | Exports | Net imports |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 . . | 12,29,38 | 5,10,10 | 7,19,28 |
| 1902-03 . . | 12,18,65 | 5,22,98 | 6,95,67 |
| 1903-04 . . | 18,37,82 | 4,82,77 | 13,55,05 |
| 1904-05 . . | 17,69,62 | 4,32,27 | 13,37,35 |
| 1905-06 . . | 16,90,20 | 1,17,90 | 15,72,30 |

It must not however be supposed that, in respect of Gold, the foregoing figures represent India's absorption of the metal. To ascertain the **absorption** the Indian production of gold must be added to the above Net Imports. The gold produced in India is sent to England for assay and thus swells the exports and diminishes the net imports calculated in the ordinary way. But if no imported gold were exported it would be necessary to consider the total imports as absorbed. For this reason the production figures of the last five years are added to the above statement. It will be seen that the **imports of gold** declined from ₹2,181 lakhs to ₹1,475 lakhs while the **exports** increased from ₹1,210 lakhs to ₹1,429 lakhs. These movements are characteristic of the year with its strong demand for gold in Japan and America, and they were contributed to by the new arrangement under which gold destined for the Gold Reserve Fund (hereafter to be known as the Gold Standard Fund) is shipped directly from the country of production to London.

The **net imports of gold** thus dropped from ₹970·59 lakhs to ₹45·8 lakhs. Including the production with a value of ₹358·76 lakhs, the net addition to the stock of gold still amounted to ₹404·56 lakhs.

In relation to the records of **imports of silver** it should be borne in mind that during those years in which the value of silver was declining but while the mints in India remained open for free coinage, the value of the metal when converted into rupees was recorded at its value upon importation. The statistics relating to years since the closing of the mints assign to the metal its true market value, so that silver of the value of ₹1,000 in these statistics represents a much larger quantity of the metal than was indicated by ₹1,000 in the statistics of ten years ago. This however scarcely affects the figures of the last five years which are here recorded. It will be seen that the **imports** of silver, though they have slightly declined, remain at a level which would a few years ago have been regarded with misgivings by those sceptical about the Government's currency policy. The **exports** have subsided to ₹117·9 lakhs—a figure so low as to find no parallel since 1885-86—and the net **imports** reached the entirely unprecedented total of ₹1,572·3 lakhs. Stated in ounces the net imports and production of gold and the net imports of silver in the last five years have been as follows:

| | Production of gold | Net Imports of gold | Net Imports of silver |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 . . | 524,461 | 274,506 | 39,005,192 |
| 1902-03 . . | 534,763 | 1,416,618 | 43,274,305 |
| 1903-04 . . | 613,755 | 1,566,237 | 78,575,469 |
| 1904-05 . . | 619,571 | 1,516,991 | 74,956,262 |
| 1905-06 . . | 625,037 | —65,473 | 84,317,765 |

The value of the true increment of gold in 1905-06 was, as has been said, ₹404·56 lakhs or, say, £2,697,050, all of which was bullion. It did not include sovereigns and half sovereigns, as was the case last year; because the exports of such in 1905-06 exceeded the imports by ₹4,66,74,824 or £3,111,655. The exports of gold by Government amounted to £6,000,000 and included

the large additions to the Gold Standard Fund resulting from the heavy coinage of silver.

## TRADE ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

The following shows the trade of India with the world in merchandise, imported and exported for five years (in thousands of rupees):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Europe . . | 1,30,70,51 | 1,31,15,12 | 1,57,37,21 | 1,69,00,76 | 1,71,42,98 |
| Africa and adjacent islands . | 11,49,58 | 14,15,50 | 8,79,80 | 8,09,20 | 8,17,68 |
| Asia . . . | 49,47,53 | 48,32,60 | 55,70,30 | 59,57,09 | 62,39,01 |
| America . . | 11,60,62 | 12,04,57 | 13,28,43 | 14,98,19 | 19,45,48 |
| Australasia . . | 2,70,06 | 1,92,53 | 2,52,55 | 2,52,57 | 3,30,13 |
| Total . | 2,05,98,30 | 2,07,60,32 | 2,37,78,29 | 2,54,17,81 | 2,64,75,28 |

As explained on page 50, the trade with Africa was exaggerated up to 1902-03 in consequence of large shipments of produce consigned to Port Said, to await orders for delivery, being credited to Egypt. The apparent falling off in the trade with Africa is not, therefore, real. When the new system of registering imports by country of consignment and exports by country of destination is properly established the trade with America will perhaps appear to have unduly increased, for at present a share of the trade with that Continent is credited to Europe and Asia. There has been a slight relative set-back in the trade with Europe, which fell from 66·5 per cent of the whole to 64·8 per cent. The trade with Asia (23·6 per cent) was practically the same as during the four preceding years (23·4 per cent). The total trade with America, of which 78·5 per cent was with the United States, increased by about 30 per cent. In the case of Europe the exports thereto were only slightly lower than the imports therefrom (imports ₹8,592 lakhs, exports ₹8,551 lakhs). In the case of the other Continents, however, the export trade very largely exceeds the import trade: exports to Africa were twice as much as the imports therefrom, to Asia four and a half times, to America eight times (in 1904-05 it was nine times), and to Australasia about three times.

The following statement shows India's trade with each principal country for the last four years (in thousands of rupees):

| | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . | 84,66,27 | 96,30,58 | 106,17,59 | 109,45,45 |
| China . . . . | 18,19,23 | 20,03,66 | 21,62,93 | 23,26,58 |
| Germany . . . | 12,33,76 | 17,73,97 | 18,03,84 | 19,11,24 |
| United States . . | 9,74,80 | 10,33,52 | 11,21,73 | 15,27,13 |
| France . . . | 10,56,95 | 11,47,54 | 11,36,47 | 11,30,48 |
| Japan . . . . | 6,70,48 | 9,74,06 | 10,91,84 | 11,23,56 |
| Belgium . . . | 8,05,72 | 10,97,50 | 11,91,95 | 10,98,62 |
| Straits Settlements . | 10,09,71 | 9,87,22 | 9,51,00 | 8,96,45 |
| Austria-Hungary . . | 5,77,09 | 7,03,01 | 8,70,63 | 8,92,17 |
| Ceylon . . . | 5,24,51 | 5,41,19 | 5,73,50 | 6,36,32 |
| Italy . . . . | 4,25,47 | 5,93,88 | 5,54,18 | 5,94,94 |
| Mauritius . . . | 3,13,20 | 3,85,85 | 3,19,55 | 3,26,09 |
| Australia . . . | 1,57,78 | 2,13,39 | 2,19,32 | 2,91,30 |
| Java . . . . | 85,07 | 1,62,04 | 2,47,01 | 2,82,96 |
| Holland . . . | 1,42,80 | 2,60,36 | 3,01,76 | 2,38,14 |
| Egypt . . . . | 8,02,05 | 1,92,91 | 1,93,58 | 1,95,53 |
| Russia . . . | 3,09,64 | 3,28,73 | 2,25,57 | 87,44 |

In determining, from the figures as they appear in the accounts, the trading interests of certain countries with India, and in making comparisons, much

care is necessary; for in the case of imported goods, the countries containing the ports from which the goods were shipped direct to India are credited with the trade, as are also the countries containing the ports at which goods were transhipped, except when goods are shipped on a through Bill of Lading, in which case the country containing the port at which the Bill was granted is credited with the trade. In the case of exported goods, the countries containing the ports at which the goods are discharged, whether destined for that country or not, are credited with the trade. Taking the figures as they stand, however, the share of the United Kingdom, which is a long way ahead of the other countries, in 1905-06 was much the same as in 1904-05 (41·8 per cent in the earlier year and 41·3 in the later). India's trade with Russia fell away very considerably, from ₹225·57 lakhs in 1904-05 to ₹87·44 lakhs in 1905-06 or a fall of 61·3 per cent.

## SHIPPING

While the net increase in the value of imports and exports of merchandise in 1905-06 amounted to ₹10,59,17 lakhs (say £7,061,133) there was a decline of about 9·25 per cent in the tonnage of shipping that entered and cleared from Indian ports. The figures for 1904-05 were, however, entirely abnormal, and those of the later year indicate a return to the normal rate of progress. The following statement gives the numbers and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to all countries:

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1901-02 . . . . | 8,613 | 9,625,317 | 1,118 |
| 1902-03 . . . . | 9,089 | 10,926,560 | 1,202 |
| 1903-04 . . . . | 9,530 | 12,559,260 | 1,318 |
| 1904-05 . . . . | 9,798 | 13,881,336 | 1,417 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 9,269 | 12,598,321 | 1,359 |

Of these 97·4 per cent represented steam tonnage. The total number of steamers that entered and cleared was 5,706 with an aggregate burden of 12,270,263 tons as against 6,386 and 13,528,347 tons in the previous year. The average tonnage per steamer increased from 2,118 to 2,150 tons.

The entries from and clearances to the United Kingdom were 3,140,281 tons as against 3,273,419 in 1904-05, but this reduced quantity represented 24·9 per cent in place of 23·6 per cent of the total tonnage.

Entries from and clearances to British Possessions other than the United Kingdom receded from 5,233,914 to 4,784,555 tons which represent 38 per cent of the total as against 37·7 in the previous year. The tonnage from and to the British Empire therefore amounted to 62·9 per cent of whole in place of 61·3 per cent.

The tonnage under the British flag including the Indian register, represents about 81·3 per cent of the whole, while that registered under the English Merchant Shipping Act was nearly 80·6 per cent.

The number of vessels under foreign flags which entered and left Indian ports was 1,296 with an aggregate burden of 2,230,400 tons as against 1,174 in 1904-05 with an aggregate of 2,112,428 tons.

The number of vessels under the principal flags are given below:

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| British . . . | 3,988 | 4,257 | 4,772 | 5,633 | 4,838 |
| German . . . | 270 | 325 | 393 | 339 | 387 |
| Austro-Hungarian . | 164 | 142 | 134 | 156 | 162 |
| Norwegian . . | 78 | 116 | 173 | 141 | 174 |
| French . . . | 149 | 157 | 143 | 94 | 105 |
| Italian . . . | 60 | 54 | 63 | 74 | 85 |

During the year a monthly service between Calcutta and the River Plate was established.

## FRONTIER TRADE

The bulk of India's Foreign trade is, and always must be, sea-borne, the value of the trade across the land frontiers of India being equal to only 5 per cent of the trade carried by sea. Although the Foreign land trade is relatively small, one of its chief features is its steady progress. It has now attained fairly substantial dimensions the grand total value of merchandise and treasure imported and exported having been ₹16,84,01,939 in 1905-06, compared with ₹15,31,94,907 in 1904-05. In 1878-79 the first year for which there are complete statistics, the trade was only ₹90,33,123; and since that time it has increased by 177 per cent. It must however be recognised that the valuation of frontier trade is difficult and defective.

The following statement is interesting as comparing the value of the trade in 1905-06 with the average annual value in the five preceding quinquennial periods:

| | Imports ₹ | Exports ₹ | Total ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Average 1880-81 to 1884-85 . | 5,24,04,656 | 5,17,28,273 | 10,41,32,929 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 . | 4,49,38,384 | 5,95,82,674 | 10,45,21,058 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 . | 4,29,06,151 | 4,05,14,663 | 8,34,20,814 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . | 5,87,54,796 | 4,99,30,583 | 10,86,85,379 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 . | 7,63,30,044 | 6,33,66,488 | 13,96,96,532 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 9,39,78,927 | 7,35,33,362 | 16,75,12,289 |

With the exception of the small trade *viâ* the branch line from Sialkot to Jammu in Kashmir, goods are not carried by railway across the frontier, but a large portion of the trade with Kadahar is carried by rail to and from stations close to the frontier and is therefore registered as railway traffic. It may however be assumed that the movements of merchandise are recorded with sufficient accuracy for analysis. Taking merchandise only the geographical distribution of the trade by frontiers and principal countries, proceeding from west to east, is as follows (in thousands of rupees):

| | | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N.-W. Frontier | Afghanistan— | | | | | |
| | Southern and Western | 68,54 | 53,48 | 68,02 | 76,53 | 85,63 |
| | Northern and Eastern | 61,00 | 63,99 | 70,56 | 87,29 | 83,43 |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur . | 1,02,65 | 96,06 | 89,08 | 1,04,55 | 1,02,96 |
| | Kashmir . . . | 2,57,67 | 2,08,32 | 2,41,45 | 2,30,26 | 2,77,19 |
| N. and N.-E. Frontier. | Tibet . . . | 29,72 | 31,43 | 20,62 | 22,39 | 37,52 |
| | Nepal . . . | 4,09,20 | 3,84,30 | 3,92,69 | 3,99,65 | 4,87,15 |
| E. Frontier | Western China . . | 68,51 | 43,73 | 45,04 | 49,92 | 50,26 |
| | North Shan States . | 70,65 | 78,00 | 85,20 | 98,70 | 1,01,90 |
| | South Shan States . | 68,89 | 63,53 | 70,74 | 89,08 | 99,87 |
| | Karenni . . . | 21,58 | 25,65 | 32,86 | 27,41 | 31,13 |
| | North Siam . . . | 34,27 | 25,93 | 33,38 | 39,64 | 31,67 |

**Seistan.**—The Quetta-Nushki railway has now been opened ; and it is reasonable to hope that, with the greater facilities afforded by the daily service of trains since April last, trade will improve. There has been a steady though small increase in both imports and exports during the last five years.

The value of the trade with Seistan was R7½ lakhs in 1905-06 compared with R5½ lakhs in 1904-05. The principal imports were silk manufactures valued at R176·778 and precious stones and pearls unset valued at R46,500. The principal exports were cotton manufactures R1,79,343 and indigo R1,40,282.

**Afghanistan.**—India's trade with Afghanistan as a whole has increased from R163·82 lakhs in 1904-05 to R169·06 lakhs in 1905-06, or by 3 per cent, the exports representing R104·59 lakhs or 62 per cent of the total, with R64·46 of imports.

Fruits and nuts with a value of R7·52 lakhs in 1905-06, compared with R7·95 lakhs in 1904-05, are conspicuous among the imports from Kabul. Animals (living), drugs and medicines, ghi, and raw wool follow in the order mentioned and range individually from R2·5 lakhs to R1·25 lakhs. The total imports fell away by 15 per cent to R22 lakhs. There was an inappreciable increase in the exports to Kabul at R61·48 lakhs, the principal articles being cotton piece-goods, which, however, fell from R38·36 lakhs to R36·48 lakhs—a decline of R1·88 lakhs. Next in importance to cotton piece-goods, but a long way behind, is tea, 6,071 cwts with a value of R4,31,720. Of this, 3,012 cwts with a value of only R1,24,176 was Indian, from which it appears that the price of foreign tea at Kabul is more than twice that of Indian tea. The only other articles of any importance are cotton yarn (mostly foreign) valued at R3·22 lakhs, and manufactured leather valued at R2·42 lakhs. More than half the imports (R42 lakhs) from **Kandahar** consisted of raw wool, which rose from R18·77 lakhs to R23·48 lakhs. Next came fruits and nuts with a value of R12·36 lakhs, which is much the same as last year, and ghi which fell to R1·44 lakhs from R2·63 lakhs. The exports to Kandahar in 1905-06 rose to R43·11 lakhs from R36·31 lakhs in the previous year, the principal articles being foreign and Indian cotton piece-goods valued at R13·42 lakhs and R13·06 lakhs, respectively, the former having risen R3⅓ lakhs and the latter having fallen R1½ lakhs, while the specific value in each case advanced by 31 per cent and 10 per cent, respectively.

**Dir, Swat, and Bajaur.**—The imports from Dir, Swat, and Bajaur were the same as in 1904-05 namely R39 lakhs. Ghi with an increase of about R1 lakh represented R18·75 lakhs or about one half of the total. The imports of grain had a value of R5 lakhs and consisted principally of husked rice at R6 lakhs and unhusked rice at R1·65 lakhs. Hides and skins declined from R6·1 lakhs to R4·1 lakhs, and timber advanced from R1 lakh to R2·75 lakhs. While the imports thus remained stationary, the exports receded to R64·02 lakhs from 65·88 lakhs. The principal articles of export were : cotton piece-goods 35 lakhs (foreign R25 lakhs and Indian 10 lakhs), twist and yarn 6·8 lakhs (foreign 4·59 and Indian 2·2 lakhs), salt 4·63 lakhs, raw cotton 3 lakhs, sugar 2·09 lakhs. Metals, spices, tobacco, indigo, and tea, ranged in value from 2 to 1 lakhs each ; indigo and metals advancing, while spices, tea, and tobacco receded. Indian tea decreased from 181,552 lbs valued at R64,812 to 159,264 lbs valued at R49,009 ; but foreign tea increased from 79,408 lbs with a value of R82,195 to 105,280 lbs with a value of R90,142. A little more than three-fourths of the tea exported was green tea.

**Kashmir.**—Both the import and export trade with Kashmir improved in 1905-06. Imports increased from R120·18 lakhs to R159·33 lakhs (equivalent to an increase of 32 per cent) and exports from R110·07 lakhs to R126·76 lakhs (equivalent to an increase of 14 per cent). Appended are the principal articles of import from Kashmir with their values for the last three years:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | R | R | R |
| Silk . . . | 11,11,080 | 15,12,884 | 31,83,600 |
| Ghi . . . | 31,32,444 | 30,02,974 | 29,80,649 |
| Timber . . . | 30,20,622 | 19,31,577 | 24,14,877 |
| Drugs and Medicines | 6,82,013 | 8,63,825 | 19,44,843 |
| *Charas* . . | *1,19,160* | *2,84,760* | *14,18,900* |
| Hides and skins . | 12,27,780 | 13,53,225 | 16,52,839 |
| Woollen piece-goods | 9,34,655 | 10,75,047 | 10,81,770 |
| Shawls . . . | 500 | 1,000 | 18,780 |
| Fruits and nuts . | 4,97,279 | 7,48,883 | 8,52,724 |
| Grain . . . | 4,77,737 | 4,58,901 | 8,21,284 |
| *Wheat* . . | *82,145* | *2,19,720* | *4,38,941* |
| *Rain crops other than rice* . . | *60,147* | *53,798* | *1,12,253* |

Silk, which is of excellent quality and produced in the State filatures, has, it will be seen, increased 53 per cent in value but only 43 per cent in quantity, the actual quantities were 231,280 lbs in 1904-05 and 330,848 lbs in 1905-06. While wheat and rain crops other than rice almost doubled in quantity, they more than doubled in value, the average price per cwt of the former rising from R2-13-10 to R3-6-9 and of the latter from R2-1-3 to R2-6-6. There was a large increase in the imports of timber and of hides and skin, both in quantity and in value. In the case of timber the increase in quantity was 27 per cent and in value 26 per cent. Hides and skins increased 3 per cent in quantity and 23 per cent in value. Fruits and nuts increased 9 per cent in quantity and 14 per cent in value. The imports of ghi fell in quantity but remained constant in value the average price per cwt having risen to R45 from R43. The price of woollen piece-goods fell from R190 to R186 per cwt. The imports of charas, which comes principally from Central Asia and which is subject to a high excise duty, showed a rise very marked in quantity and even more noticeable in value.

In the following statement are enumerated the principal articles of export to Kashmir with their values:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | R | R | R |
| Cotton piece-goods . | 48,55,525 | 43,79,041 | 52,94,524 |
| Sugar . . . . | 12,05,148 | 11,72,436 | 14,11,951 |
| Cotton Yarn . . | 4,75,170 | 5,16,989 | 8,01,506 |
| Tea . . . | 3,57,434 | 5,26,486 | 7,28,302 |
| Salt . . . | 9,45,432 | 9,32,601 | 6,33,269 |
| Metals . . . | 6,62,039 | 4,86,287 | 5,33,898 |

Cotton piece-goods, by far the largest item of export, increased 16 per cent in quantity (44,611 cwts in 1904-05 to 51,034 cwts in 1905-06) and 21 per cent in value (R43·79 to R52·94 lakhs), whilst cotton yarns increased 43 per cent in quantity (7,038 cwts to 10,245 cwts) and 60 per cent in value (R5·17 lakhs to R8·02 lakhs). More than four-fifths of the former and 96 per cent of the latter were of foreign manufacture. Tea exports increased 8 per cent in quantity (from 1,484,448 lbs to 1,664,768 lbs) and 40 per cent in value (R5·26 lakhs to R7·28 lakhs), the price of foreign tea being Ro-6-11 per lb compared with

Indian tea at Ro-10-7 per lb. Sugar increased 2·5 per cent in quantity (114,825 cwts to 117,220 cwts) and 27 per cent in value (R11·72 lakhs to R14·12 lakhs). The only principal article that fell was salt, which declined 20 per cent in quantity (266,376 cwts to 214,385 cwts) and 33 per cent in value (R9·33 lakhs to R6·33 lakhs).

**Ladakh.**—Ladakh is a junction for trade between India and Western Tibet on the one hand and Yarkand and Kashgar on the other. Trade with it, which is registered separately from the trade with Kashmir, is small, its value amounting to only R6·86 lakhs(R5·78 lakhs imports and exports only R1·08 lakhs). Both imports and exports declined in 1905-06—imports 50 per cent and exports 66 per cent. In imports, charas was the only article of importance its value being 80 per cent of the total value and this fell away from 2,276 cwts valued at R9·29 lakhs to 1,086 cwts valued at R4·21 lakhs. There has been a remarkable increase in the imports of raw silk from Ladakh; in 1904-05 it was only 56 cwts, valued at R26,600, and in 1905-06 the quantity rose to 172 cwts and the value to R82,000. Cotton piece-goods form the principal item of export; for their value was more than three-fourths of the total value of exports; but a decline occurred both in quantity and in value, the fall in the former case being 67 per cent and in the latter 65 per cent. Practically all the piece-goods were of foreign manufacture.

## NORTHERN AND NORTH-EASTERN FRONTIER

Nepal and Tibet are the only two states or countries along this frontier which can be said to have any trade of importance with India.

**Nepal.**—The trade with Nepal increased from R399·65 lakhs in 1904-05 (imports R253·99 lakhs and exports R145·66 lakhs) to R487·15 lakhs in 1905-06 (imports R332·88 lakhs and exports R154·27 lakhs). In the latter year it amounted to 33 per cent of the total frontier trade of India as against 30 per cent in 1904-05. The fluctuations in the past three years are set forth in the appended list of the principal articles of imports:

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | R | R | R |
| Grain and pulse | 1,29,56,132 | 1,28,27,242 | 1,73,33,936 |
| *Rice* | *75,48,735* | *73,07,271* | *96,38,652* |
| *Paddy* | *39,55,682* | *40,66,437* | *57,22,659* |
| *Wheat* | *1,96,368* | *1,97,605* | *3,36,361* |
| Animals living | 21,79,400 | 27,88,745 | 30,24,550 |
| *Cattle* | *12,36,282* | *15,45,314* | *18,26,302* |
| Oilseeds | 25,36,055 | 25,45,789 | 23,50,612 |
| *Linseed* | *11,46,444* | *10,63,707* | *6,67,341* |
| *Rape and mustard* | *13,76,151* | *14,71,791* | *16,01,544* |
| Ghi | 15,41,796 | 15,82,240 | 22,06,776 |
| Jute, raw | 7,49,577 | 9,01,154 | 21,39,964 |
| Hides and skins | 9,38,140 | 9,39,008 | 11,88,202 |
| Spices | 12,04,471 | 9,02,706 | 10,33,007 |

Of the total imports from Nepal, grain (principally rice, husked and unhusked) accounted for 52 per cent. The imports of this article rose from 3,594,291 cwts, valued at R128·27 lakhs, in 1904-05 to 4,463,201 cwts, valued at R173·34 lakhs, in 1905-06, this representing an increase of 26 per cent in quantity and 35 per cent in value. More than half the cattle imported into India across the land frontiers came from Nepal into Bengal, the number imported in 1905-06 being 43,976 with a value of R18,26,302, which gives an average

price per head of R41½. Another article of importance, the imports of which have been steadily growing, is raw jute. Nepal in fact is the only country from which India imports any jute. In 1905-06 the quantity rose to 236,214 cwts from 150,173 cwts in the previous year, or an increase of 57 per cent while the value more than doubled, having increased from R9·01 lakhs in 1904-05 to R21·4 lakhs in 1905-06. The average value of raw jute imported from Nepal was R9 per cwt in 1905-06 compared with an average price of R6 per cwt in the previous year. Oilseeds valued at R23½ lakhs (mustard and rape R16·02 lakhs and linseed R6·67 lakhs) was the only principal article of which the imports fell away in 1905-06. Besides the articles enumerated above, there are several of which the value exceeds a lakh of rupees, the principal of these being: railway materials R7·76 lakhs, timber R5·33 lakhs and dyes R4·94 lakhs. Railway materials have risen from half a lakh in 1904-05 to over R7¾ lakhs.

The following are the principal articles of export to Nepal:

| | 1903-04 R | 1904-05 R | 1905-06 R |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton piece-goods . . | 50,19,722 | 57,68,943 | 60,07,841 |
| „ twist and yarn . . | 14,79,921 | 15,06,067 | 17,47,875 |
| Metals . . . . | 14,79,186 | 15,98,341 | 14,06,444 |
| Salt . . . . | 10,60,566 | 11,37,118 | 12,38,600 |
| Spices . . . . | 6,61,897 | 6,48,580 | 7,99,292 |
| Sugar . . . . | 5,71,555 | 5,96,666 | 7,29,602 |

Cotton piece-goods with twist and yarn (six-sevenths of which was of foreign manufacture) accounted for half India's exports to Nepal. The former increased by 10 per cent in quantity and 5 per cent in value. Metals is the only item that fell both in quantity and in value, the decline being 3 per cent in the former and 7 per cent in the latter.

**Sikkim and Bhutan.**—The trade with both Sikkim and Bhutan advanced in 1905-06. The imports from the former reached R4·08 lakhs (principally grain R1·12 lakhs and fruits, etc., R·74 lakhs) in place of R2·35 lakhs in 1904-05. The imports from Bhutan amounted to R12·41 lakhs and of these the most important were: timber, R6·6 lakhs and fruits, etc., R2·76 lakhs. The exports to Sikkim (R4¾ lakhs) consisted principally of: grain R1·29 lakhs, cotton piece-goods and yarn (chiefly the former and of Indian manufacture) R94,000, and salt R31,000. The exports to Bhutan amounted to R1·92 lakhs and of these the most important were: cotton piece-goods and yarn (chiefly the former and of foreign manufacture) with a value of R56,000, silk manufactures R31,000, and spices R26,000.

**Tibet.**—The effect of the treaty of Lhassa of September 1904 on the Indo-Tibetan trade has not yet been felt to any appreciable extent, but better equipped trade agencies have now been established at Gyangtse and Gartok. Chumbi traders, lately returned from Lhassa, state that there are now more Indian goods in Lhassa than has ever been the case in the past. Prices have fallen considerably, but supplies on the road between Gyangtse and Lhassa are said to be unusually dear.

The imports from Tibet in 1905-06 rose to R19·19 lakhs from R11·95 lakhs in the year previous. More than half the imports consisted of raw wool which increased 100 per cent in quantity (from 21,940 cwts to 42,741 cwts) and 120 per cent in value (from R5·86 lakhs to R11·3 lakhs). Other principal articles were: borax R1·93 lakhs, salt 1·68 lakhs, and horses, ponies and mules about a lakh. Exports increased in about the same proportion as imports (from

R10·43 lakhs in 1904-05 to R18·33 lakhs in 1905-06), the principal articles, as is usual in transfrontier trade, being cotton piece-goods with a value of R5·05 lakhs and yarn with a value of R22,356. Other principal articles of export were, in the order in which they are named: grain R2·39 lakhs (about half being husked rice), coral 2·28 lakhs, woollen manufactures 1·88 lakhs, and metals R85,000.

**Other States.**—The two most important among the remaining States are Manipur and Hill Tipperah. The imports from Manipur were valued at R3·17 lakhs in 1905-06 compared with R3·74 lakhs in 1904-05, the principal articles being: cattle R1·06 and husked rice R1·18 lakhs. The exports to Manipur, which in 1904-05 were R2·68 lakhs, declined in 1905-06 to 2·12 lakhs. They consisted principally of: spices R73,297, cotton piece-goods R44,458 (about equally divided between Foreign and Indian), salt R18,370, and oil R15,551. The imports from Hill Tipperah advanced from R5·39 lakhs to R7·02 lakhs and were composed principally of timber R2·78, bamboos R1·53, and raw cotton R144 lakhs. The exports to Hill Tipperah also advanced, from R1·95 to R2·47 lakhs, and were composed of a number of small items, the three principal being dry fish R23,604; tobacco R22,388; and grain and pulse, R21,678.

## EASTERN FRONTIER

**Western China.**—While the import trade with Western China, which really means the trade of Bhamo with Tongyueh in Yunnan, advanced from R13·14 lakhs in 1904-05 to R17·25 lakhs in 1905-06, the increase being one of 30 per cent, the export trade received a small set-back, having declined to R33·01 lakhs from R36·78 lakhs, a fall of 8 per cent. Among the imports, the largest increase was in opium which rose from R14,975 to R3·62 lakhs. The other principal items which increased were: raw silk, from R4·52 lakhs to R5·42 lakhs; hides of cattle, from R1·74 lakhs to R2·16 lakhs; orpiment from R97,290 to R1·2 lakhs. Animals (living) declined from R2·39 lakhs to R1·81 lakhs, and lac from R1·03 lakhs to R26,672. More than half the exports (58 per cent) consisted of cotton yarn, all of Indian manufacture which fell from R23·74 lakhs to R19·09 lakhs. Cotton piece-goods however increased by 72 per cent, from R2·22 lakhs to R3·8 lakhs. The other principal items of export were: raw cotton 3·5, jadestone 1·22, provisions 1·65, and salt 1·24 lakhs. Exports of petroleum increased 120 per cent having risen from R29,896 to R64,211.

**Shan States (North and South.)**—These States are British territory under local chiefs; but for convenience of registration they are treated as foreign countries and two-thirds of the trade across the Eastern frontier is with them. The trade as a whole increased 7 per cent in 1905-06, the imports having increased by R39,000, although there was a decline of R3·72 lakhs in the imports from the Northern States. The exports increased by more than R13½ lakhs, about equally shared between the Northern and Southern States. The principal items of import in 1905-06 from the Northern States (total value R50·49 lakhs) were: letpet (pickled tea) R22·51 lakhs (in 1904-05 R24·8 lakhs), tea (leaf) R10·8 lakhs, teak R3·76 lakhs (in 1904-05 R8·15 lakhs), husked rice R1·87 lakhs, and lac R1·57 lakhs. The exports (total value R51·42 lakhs) consisted of cotton piece-goods (almost entirely foreign) R9·97 lakhs, as against R12·53 lakhs in 1904-05, yarn R9·51 lakhs (mostly foreign) compared with R5·98 lakhs in 1904-05, provisions R8·09 lakhs (seven-eighths of which was fish), salt R2·95 lakhs, iron R2·55 lakhs, opium R2·53 lakhs, and animals (living) R2 lakhs. The imports from the Southern Shan States (total value R47·03

lakhs) were composed of: horses, ponies and mules R3·23 lakhs, cattle R7·09 lakhs, teak R8·85 lakhs, lac R6·56 lakhs, potatoes R1·95 lakhs, "other fruits, vegetables, and nuts" R3·21 lakhs, and hides and skins R1·23 lakhs (in 1904-05 they were only R24,000). The exports to the Southern Shan States (R52·84 lakhs) were made up of cotton piece-goods (mostly foreign) R19·38 lakhs, provisions (principally fish) R4·94 lakhs, manufactured silks R4·02 lakhs, betelnuts R3 lakhs, apparel R2·63 lakhs, cotton yarn R2·59 (mostly Indian), and metals R2·24 lakhs (of which iron constituted R1½ lakhs).

**North and South Siam.**—India's trade with North Siam is more than three and a half times her trade with South Siam. Her imports from North Siam in 1905-06 fell 28 per cent, that is to say from R28·93 lakhs to R20·75 lakhs. They consisted mainly of teak R12·28 lakhs, cattle R3·84 lakhs (with a decline from R10·94 lakhs in the previous year), and other kinds of animals which, however, rose from R2·96 lakhs in 1904-05 to R4·06 lakhs in 1905-06. Exports to North Siam (R10·91 lakhs) were composed of cotton piece-goods (almost all foreign manufacture) R2·31 lakhs, yarn R1·71 lakhs (which like piece-goods was almost all of foreign manufacture), apparel R1·3 lakhs, and manufactured silk R1·12 lakhs. The imports from South Siam (R5·64 lakhs) were made up almost entirely of manufactured silk R2·88 lakhs and animals (living) R2·71 lakhs. The exports of South Siam had a value of only R3·43 lakhs but are to be compared with R2·1 lakhs in 1904-05. The only item that exceeded half a lakh of rupees was manufactured silk valued at R66,000.

**Karenni.**—The exports to Karenni are trifling, but they advanced in 1905-06 to R4·17 lakhs from R2·37 lakhs in 1904-05, the two principal items being animals (living), which increased from half a lakh in 1904-05 to R1·78 lakhs in 1905-06, and jewellery and precious stones and pearls unset, which rose from only R4,000 in 1904-05 to R81,000 in 1905-06. The imports (R26·95 lakhs) consisted almost entirely of teak valued at R26·35 lakhs.

The general character of the trade with countries across the Indian frontiers will be observed from the appended list of principal articles of imports and exports. The values are stated in thousands of rupees:

*IMPORTS*

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cattle | 33,29 | 39,59 | 33,60 |
| Other animals | 38,38 | 35,16 | 31,70 |
| Drugs and medicines, including charas | 20,72 | 25,85 | 31,57 |
| Fibrous products (chiefly jute) | 12,12 | 13,32 | 26,65 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 31,01 | 37,23 | 41,52 |
| Grain and pulse (largely rice) | 1,49,78 | 1,47,63 | 1,96,57 |
| Hides and skins | 35,13 | 35,90 | 41,01 |
| Ghi (clarified butter) | 64,05 | 71,94 | 75,86 |
| Pickled tea | 22,06 | 24,88 | 22,52 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rapeseed) | 32,22 | 28,52 | 26,79 |
| Silk | 22,80 | 24,71 | 36,56 |
| Spices | 17,17 | 12,18 | 13,65 |
| Wood and timber, chiefly teak | 1,22,35 | 94,94 | 99,32 |
| Wool, raw | 27,10 | 30,89 | 42,45 |
| Woollen goods | 11,11 | 12,58 | 13,63 |

*EXPORTS*

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton, raw | 7,60 | 11,03 | 8,93 |
| Cotton yarn: | | | |
| Foreign | 28,28 | 31,25 | 39,88 |
| Indian | 33,30 | 34,80 | 29,88 |
| Cotton goods: | | | |
| Foreign | 1,50,31 | 1,87,86 | 2,02,70 |
| Indian | 63,34 | 64,91 | 61,39 |
| Grain and pulse | 17,39 | 16,67 | 18,86 |
| Metals, mainly brass, copper, and iron | 30,42 | 32,11 | 31,87 |
| Oils | 13,50 | 14,18 | 16,94 |
| Provisions | 19,43 | 21,97 | 24,57 |
| Salt | 31,46 | 33,03 | 31,22 |
| Silk goods | 8,22 | 8,97 | 8,12 |
| Spices | 14,04 | 17,06 | 17,53 |
| Sugar | 27,04 | 26,67 | 33,10 |
| Tea | 10,69 | 12,40 | 14,24 |
| Tobacco | 12,10 | 13,03 | 14,28 |

The relative importance of the trade of each frontier province with the countries on the other side of its border is indicated by the following figures (in thousands of rupees):

| | 1901-02 | 1902-03 | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sind and Baluchistan . | 1,02,18 | 75,30 | 88,47 | 1,04,90 | 1,12,02 |
| N.-W. Frontier Province . } | 4,80,76 | 2,07,59 | 2,43,78 | 2,92,77 | 2,98,56 |
| Punjab . . . } | | 2,19,09 | 2,18,86 | 2,61,42 | 2,31,02 |
| United Provinces . . | 1,63,20 | 1,64,75 | 1,70,52 | 1,64,75 | 1,94,65 |
| Bengal . . . | 3,18,79 | 2,82,86 | 2,67,02 | 2,86,04 | 3,81,44 |
| Assam . . . | 13,68 | 11,69 | 20,51 | 18,64 | 19,88 |
| Burma . . . | 3,57,35 | 3,09,55 | 3,69,93 | 4,03,42 | 4,37,55 |

## COASTING TRADE

It has been pointed out in previous issues of the *Review* that merchandise shipped from one part of India to another appears first under exports and next under imports, so that the total of the two is approximately double the true dimensions of the single transaction. But half of the sum of the total Imports and total Exports under Coasting Trade would not represent even approximately the true scope of the trade, for the statistics comprise such exchanges with ports in Indian Native States and Foreign Settlements as appear in Indian statistics only as Imports or as Exports. It has, therefore, been the practice to state in the Review the net value of the coasting trade arrived at by "adding to the value of the imports into British Ports from other British ports the sum of the imports and exports in the trade between British and non-British ports in India." The value so calculated, in respect of 1905-6 is for merchandise ₹4,52$1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs (say £30,142,000), which marks a repetition of the rise of ₹260 lakhs recorded last year and a percentage increase of 6·1 per cent. **Food-grains** represented 21·6 per cent of the total with a value of ₹977 lakhs, the increase in this case amounting to 34·2 per cent. Of the total value of Food-grains, **rice** represented 68·7 per cent; and there were increased exports from Burma to Bombay and Madras, and from Bengal to the latter. The recorded exports from Burma to Indian ports were 460,000 tons, an increase of 159,000 tons over those for 1904-05; but the discrepancy between the shipment figures and those of reciepts continues and in the case of Madras still amounts to the diminished two years' average of 26,000 tons. The exports of **mineral oil** from Burma to Indian ports increased from 50 to 55·3 million gallons. The quantity taken by Calcutta for distribution by sea to other ports decreased from 45 to 34 million gallons the direct shipment from Burma to the other provinces being: Bombay 10·8 millions, Madras 7·4 millions, and Sind 1·4 millions. The coastal exports of **gunny bags** from Calcutta, mainly to Burma and Bombay, decreased in value from ₹160·5 lakhs to ₹158·5 lakhs, representing about 58 million bags. The expansion in the shipments of Bengal **coal** was one of 226,000 tons bringing the total to 2,012,000 tons. The quantity of Indian-made **cotton piece-goods** exported from the Bombay Presidency rose only 13·8 per cent above the figures recorded in 1904-05; but this was due to no slackness of demand and the value of the 173·15 million yards shipped showed an increase of 17 per cent to ₹249·5 lakhs, the average value per yard having thus advanced by 2·8 per cent.

FREDERICK NOËL-PATON

*Director-General of Commercial Intelligence*

*July 31, 1906*

# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

IN

# 1907-08.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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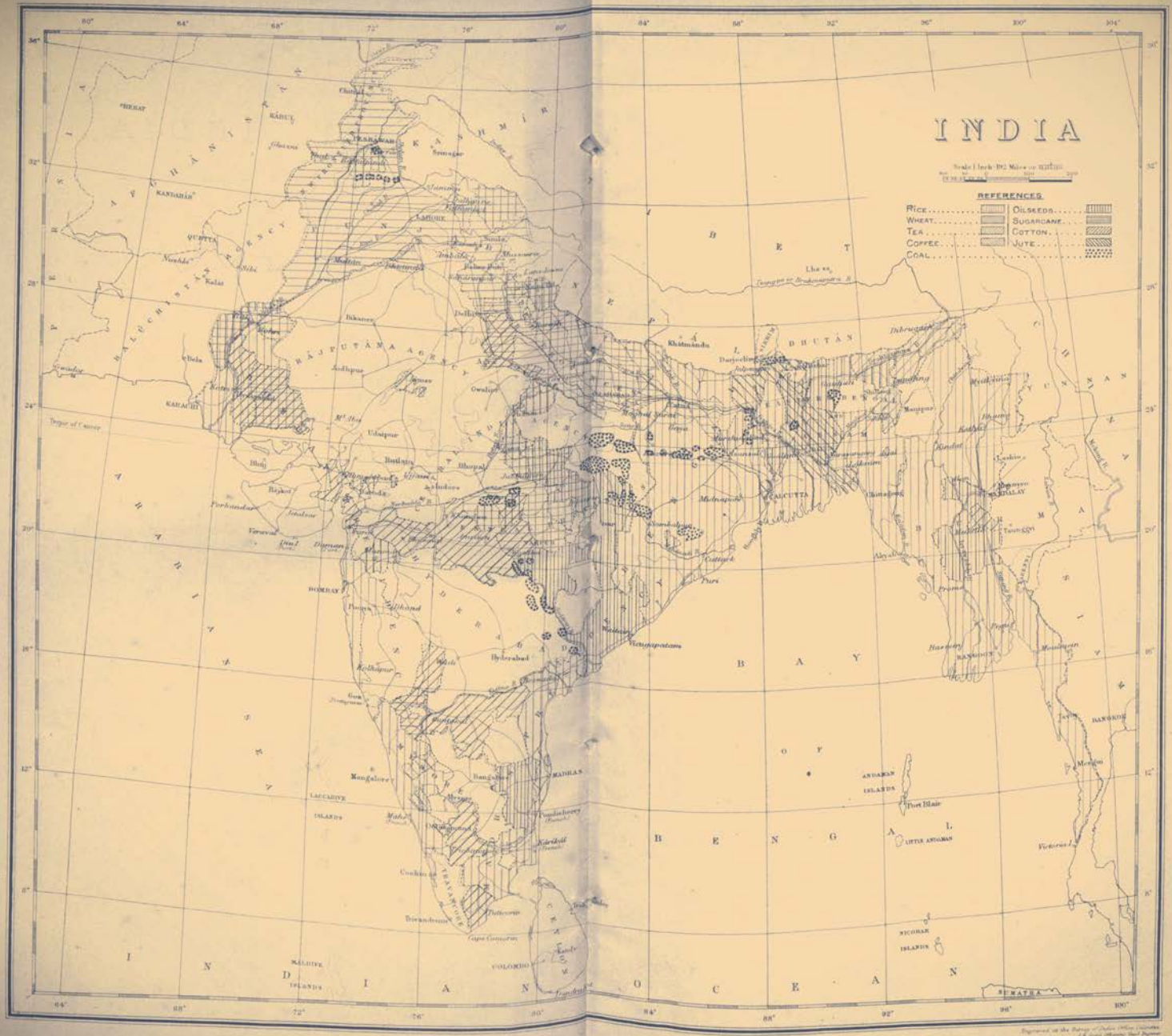
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# REVIEW

## OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

For the official year ending March 31, 1908

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India being a country where, in spite of the extension of irrigation, agriculture continues to be largely dependent upon the rains and the people in turn dependent on agriculture, a report on her annual trade would be incomplete if it contained no reference to the past season and its crops. In this particular instance it is the more necessary because, judged by the total figures of seaborne trade and of the import trade in particular, it might be assumed that the year under review was one of unparalleled commercial activity—a view which, however true of the first six months, would be absolutely opposed to the facts as regards the latter half of the year. The spring (rabi) harvest of 1907 had been generally indifferent, particularly in Northern India, and when the failure of the south-west monsoon occurred famine conditions declared themselves over a large area. The United Provinces in particular and the contiguous Native States, where the rainfall was less than half the normal, suffered severely, and the eastern districts of the Panjab, the northern half of the Central Provinces and parts of Bengal, Bombay, and Madras were affected in a lesser degree, the distress extending over 133,000 square miles, bearing a population of 49 millions.

The expenditure on famine relief and loss of Imperial revenue was budgetted at 461 lakhs (£3,073,000) in 1907-08 and 524 lakhs (£3,493,000) in 1908-09, but large as these figures are, they afford only a partial gauge of the intensity of the famine and its effect on trade, for the rains were either excessive or in defect all over the country, and there was not a single staple crop harvested during the statistical year the outturn of which was not seriously curtailed. The effect in some cases of this shortage does not appear in the year under review, the wheat crop, for example, which provided the bulk of the foreign shipments in 1907-08, being the exportable surplus of the 1906-07 harvest, and this also applies to cotton and oil-seeds; but jute and rice come into commercial consideration within the statistical year in which they are reaped. Agricultural prospects were to some extent improved by good rain in December and January which saved part of the spring harvest of wheat and oil-seeds in Northern India, but the fall was generally too late to remedy the restricted extent of the original sowings.

It was more than unfortunate that the unfavourable character of the season should have declared itself just when the United States of America was passing through a great financial crisis, for not only did this close a profitable outlet for Indian exports, particularly in gunnies and hides, but also caused a drain on the world's reserve of gold which completely upset the tael and dollar exchange in

the Far East and temporarily destroyed the stability of the trade with China. The market weakness incidentally revealed that India like America was suffering; though not to the same extent, from the effects of overtrading which had tempted many petty merchants and small capitalists to increase the volume of their business beyond prudential bounds. The bank rate rose and continued high up to the close of the year; exchange, in sympathy with the premium on gold elsewhere, fell below the parity of 1*s* 4*d*, and though imports continued to pour in, they were met by no corresponding internal demand, and stocks, particularly of piece-goods, began to accumulate rapidly, in spite of falling prices. The commercial situation when the statistical year closed was therefore in some respects unsatisfactory, but external elements of weakness having almost entirely disappeared, a return to healthy market conditions seemed to depend chiefly upon the sufficiency of the present monsoon, and it is satisfactory to be able to record here that everything points at present to its being abundant. If these hopes materialize, it will be found that the expansion of India's commerce has suffered only a temporary set-back. No better indication of its progressive growth and hopes for the future is to be found than in the elaborate programmes of expenditure either contemplated or in course of execution to increase trade facilities at all the principal ports.

There are several other features of the year's trade which deserve mention, as they are for the most part imperfectly disclosed in the statistics. The rise in the price of all the principal food grains, and particularly of rice, continues and is not entirely attributable to seasonal adversity, though no complete solution of this interesting economic problem has yet been propounded. The great increase in the number of prospecting licenses issued during the year, particularly in the Central Provinces, indicates that the mineral wealth of the country is being more systematically exploited, and, in this connection, the fact that the great iron and steel industry at Sini, of which such sanguine hopes have been expressed, is being financed almost entirely with Indian capital is of peculiar interest.

Though industrial progress outside established grooves seems as yet to reveal more promise than performance, the advance during the year is none the less considerable, but several ventures too ambitiously or too hastily conceived have proved commercial failures.

It is in Bombay and not in Bengal that the true "swadeshi" movement has achieved the most concrete results.

The **map of India** prefixed to this Review is intended to illustrate the principal sources of specific products. The areas of production of the staple crops of British India, namely, rice, wheat, oil-seeds, sugarcane, tea, coffee, cotton, and jute, are indicated by hatchings—horizontal, vertical, and diagonal from right to left—in two colours, black and red, and the location of the principal coal-fields is marked with black dots. For want of data no information is given as regards Native States, and the districts in which the area under the selected crop is less than 10 per cent of the total cropped area have been left blank. The chief railway systems are indicated by thin black lines.

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF TRADE

In the following statement the **value of the trade of India** for the year ending March 31, 1908, is compared with the value of the trade in each of the preceding two years. The values are stated in rupees with equivalents in

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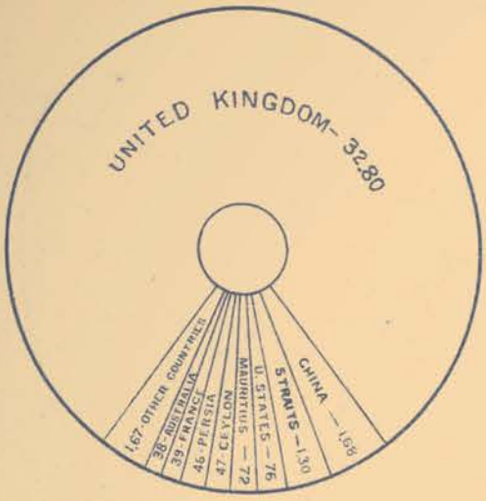
# IMPORTS.

## INDIA'S PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS.

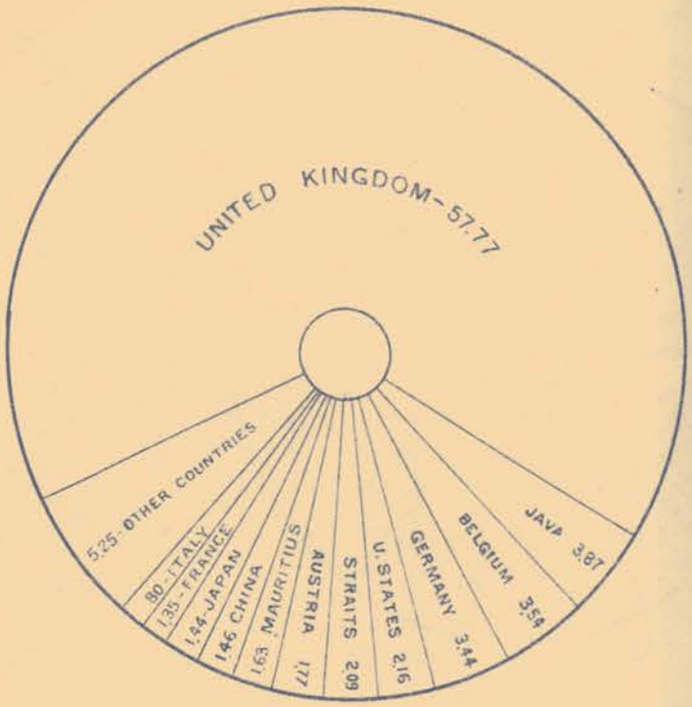
1882-83

TOTAL VALUE, £ 40,627,470




1907-08

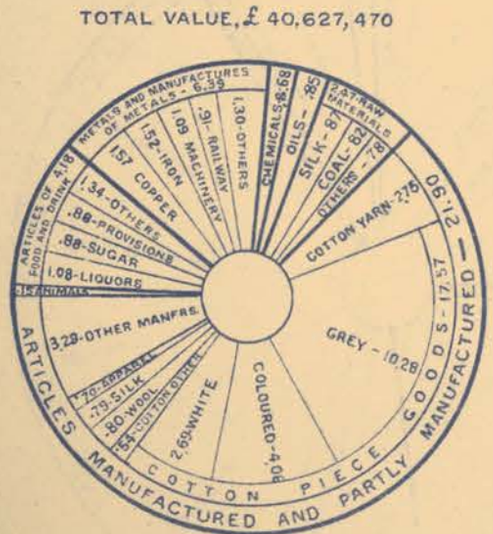
TOTAL VALUE, £ 86,570,892




## PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF TRADE.

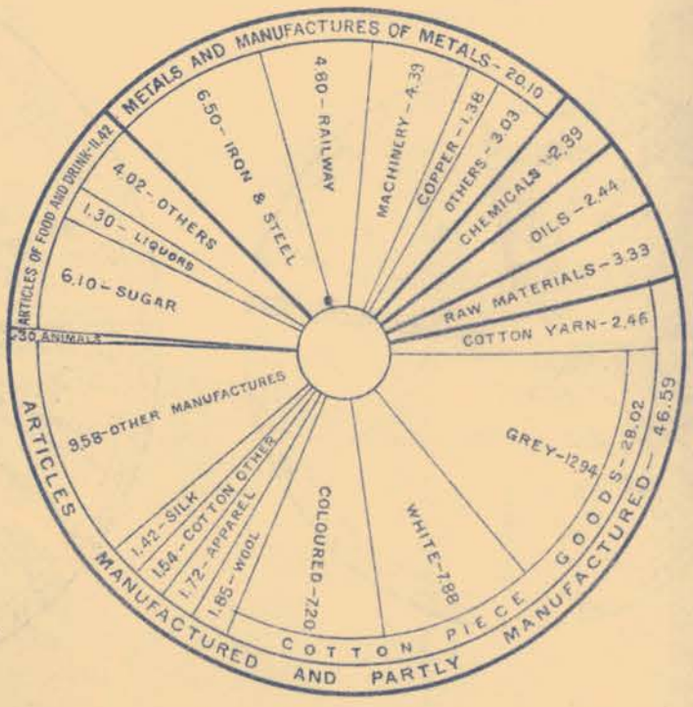
1882-83

TOTAL VALUE, £ 40,627,470




1907-08

TOTAL VALUE, £ 86,570,892




VALUES GIVEN IN MILLIONS (£ STERLING).

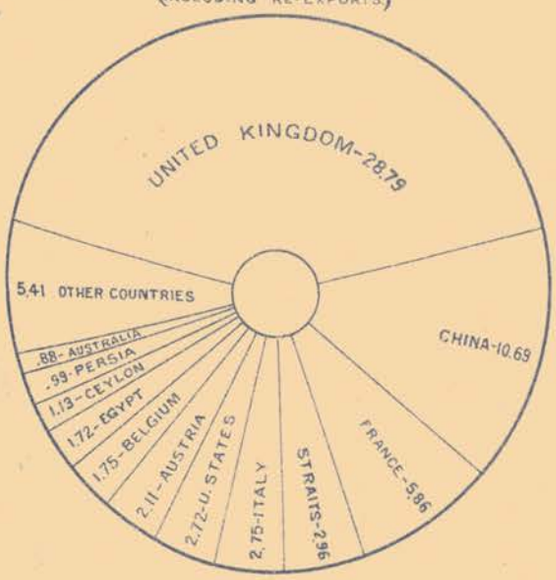
Reg. No. 2005 E., 08.—D. G., Commercial, Intelligence.—July 08.—1,450.

# EXPORTS.

## INDIA'S PRINCIPAL CUSTOMERS

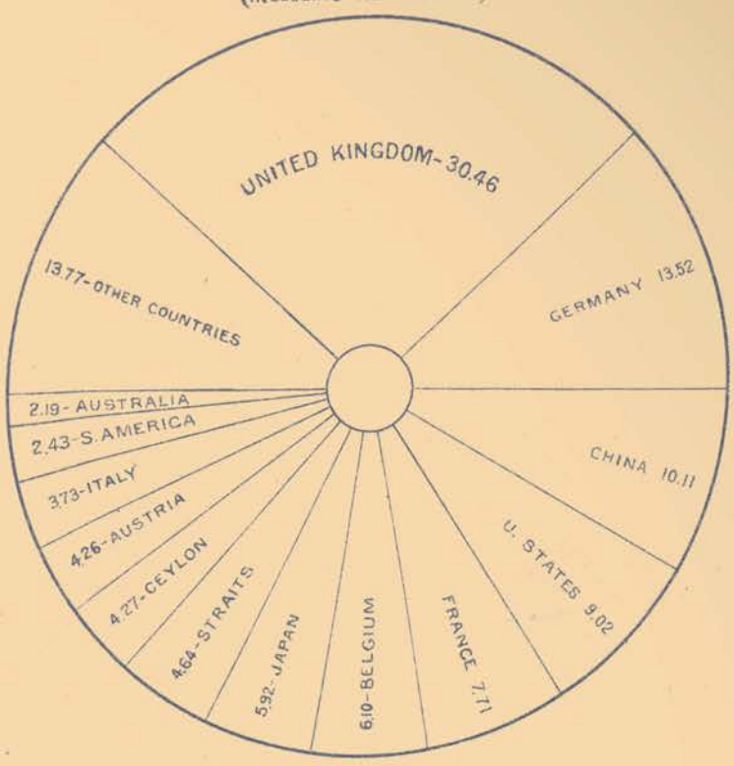
1882-83

TOTAL VALUE, £ 67,763,202
(INCLUDING RE-EXPORTS)




1907-08

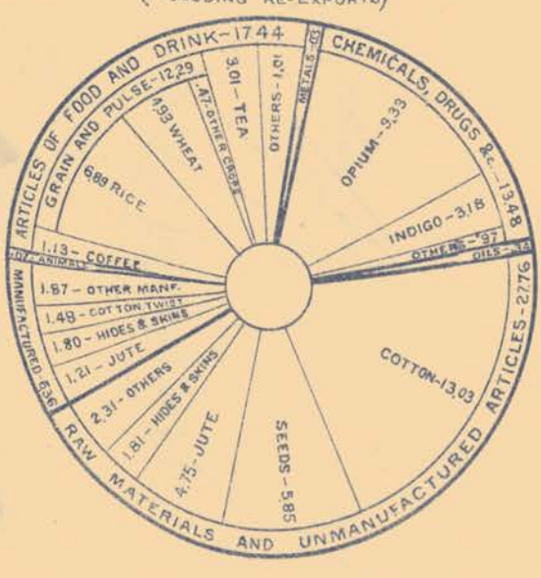
TOTAL VALUE, £ 118,125,102
(INCLUDING RE-EXPORTS)




## PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF TRADE.

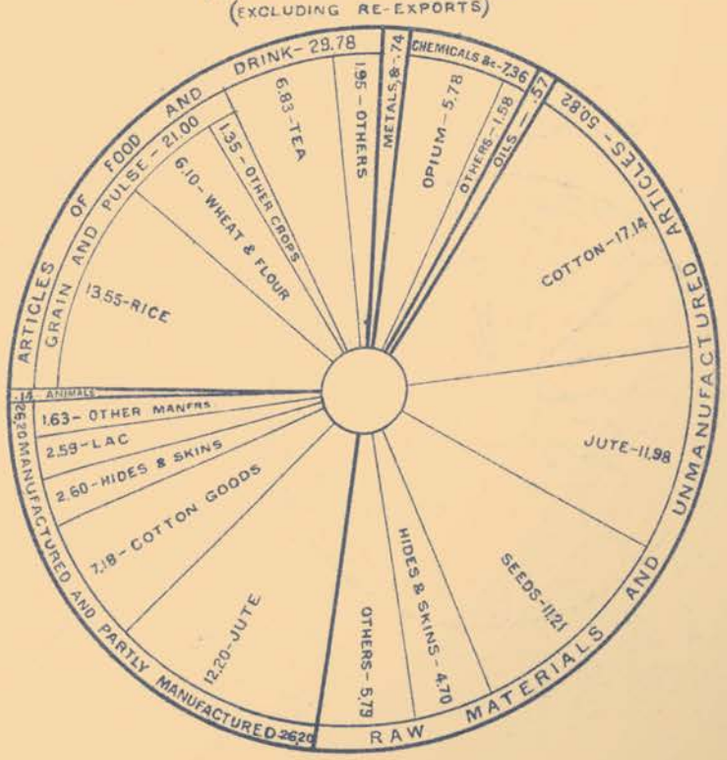
1882-83

TOTAL VALUE, £ 65,486,001
(EXCLUDING RE-EXPORTS)




1907-08

TOTAL VALUE, £ 115,614,156
(EXCLUDING RE-EXPORTS)




VALUES GIVEN IN MILLIONS (£ STERLING).

Hollo., S. I. O., Calcutta.

pounds sterling and exclude Government transactions in both merchandise and treasure.

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Imports*— | | | | | | |
| Merchandise | 1,03,08,40,705= | 68,722,714 | 1,08,30,75,818= | 72,205,055 | 1,29,85,63,374= | 86,570,892 |
| Gold . . | 14,74,29,715 | 9,828,648 | 18,47,07,817 | 12,313,854 | 20,73,46,032 | 13,823,069 |
| Silver . | 6,17,83,175 | 4,118,878 | 8,73,02,041 | 5,820,136 | 12,08,58,260 | 8,057,217 |
| Total, imports . | 1,24,00,53,595 | 82,670,240 | 1,35,50,85,676 | 90,339,045 | 1,62,67,67,666 | 108,451,178 |
| *Exports*— | | | | | | |
| Indian merchandise . . | 1,58,18,92,231 | 105,459,482 | 1,73,08,20,132 | 115,388,009 | 1,73,42,12,335 | 115,614,156 |
| Foreign merchandise re-exported . | 3,52,88,100 | 2,352,540 | 3,48,40,390 | 2,322,693 | 3,76,64,189 | 2,510,946 |
| Gold . . | 5,29,09,830 | 3,527,322 | 3,67,73,424 | 2,451,561 | 3,38,49,127 | 2,256,608 |
| Silver . . | 1,15,87,739 | 772,516 | 2,03,56,652 | 1,357,110 | 2,06,13,154 | 1,374,210 |
| Total, exports . | 1,68,16,77,900 | 112,111,860 | 1,82,27,90,598 | 121,519,373 | 1,82,63,38,805 | 121,755,920 |

The **grand total of imports and exports** combined was, therefore, ₹345·31 crores (230·2 millions sterling) as against ₹317·79 crores (211·86 millions sterling) in 1906-07, the increase being one of ₹27·52 crores (18·34 millions sterling) or 8·7 per cent. This includes some ₹3·77 crores (2·51 millions sterling) of foreign merchandise re-exported, but excludes some ₹2·7 crores (1·8 millions sterling) of material imported by Government for State Railways.

Two **Circular Charts** have been inserted to illustrate graphically the importance of staple articles and each group of articles under imports and exports, and to exhibit the progress made in the past twenty-five years in the volume of trade in these articles and groups. The year 1882-83 was a normal year so far as the foreign trade of India was concerned. The values have been reduced to pounds sterling at the rate of 19·5 *d* per rupee in 1882-83, and of 16*d* per rupee in 1907-08.

## IMPORTS

**Imports** contributed 98·7 per cent of the grand total increase in trade with a total value of ₹162·68 crores (108·4 millions sterling) as against ₹135·51 crores (90·3 millions sterling) in the previous year, the advance in this case being one of ₹27·17 crores (18·1 millions sterling) or 20 per cent.

**Imports of merchandise** increased from ₹108·3 crores (£72·2 millions) to ₹129·86 crores (86·57 millions sterling). The largest class of imports is that of **Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured,** in which the total has this year advanced to ₹69·89 crores (46·59 millions sterling). The increase of ₹10·68 crores (7·12 millions sterling), representing about 18 per cent of the previous year's figures, was chiefly contributed by **cotton manufactures** (₹712·5 lakhs=£4,750,000), **woollens** (₹71·55 lakhs=£477,000), **apparel** (₹47·06 lakhs=£314,000), and **silk manufactures** (₹30·98 lakhs=£206,000).

**Metals and manufactures thereof** shewed a net increase of 750·1 lakhs (£5,000,700) or 33 per cent over the figures of 1906-07. Of this sum ₹315·14 lakhs (£2,101,000) was contributed by **Metals,** which had a value of ₹1,319·14 lakhs (£8,794,000). **Railway materials** increased by ₹304·24 lakhs (£2,028,000) to ₹720·08 lakhs (£4,800,500), and **Machinery** by ₹79·52 lakhs (£530,000) to ₹658·53 lakhs (£4,390,000). **Hardware and Cutlery** also contributed an increase of 51·20 lakhs (£341,000).

Under **Articles of Food and Drink** there was an increase of ₹141·89 lakhs (£946,000) or 9 per cent. The imports of **Sugar and Salt** advanced by ₹48·89 lakhs (£326,000) and ₹13·44 lakhs (£89,600) to ₹922·70 lakhs (£6,151,000) and ₹80·21 lakhs (£534,700) respectively. **Provisions** rose from ₹242·33 lakhs (£1,616,000) to ₹274 lakhs (£1,827,000) and **wheat** from ₹11·39 lakhs (£75,900) to ₹16·63 lakhs (£110,900), shewing an increase of ₹31·67 lakhs (£211,000) and ₹5·24 lakhs (£35,000) respectively.

**Raw materials, etc.**, advanced by ₹60·57 lakhs (£403,800) to ₹500·39 lakhs (£3,336,000), due mainly to a rise of ₹41·35 lakhs (£275,700) under **Silk** and 10·78 lakhs (£71,900) under **coal and coke.**

The imports of **Oils** advanced from ₹2·77 crores (1·85 millions sterling) to ₹3·66 crores (2·44 millions sterling), **Mineral Oils** with a value of ₹3·15 crores (2·1 millions sterling) accounting for ₹72·76 lakhs (£485,000) of the difference.

**Chemicals, Drugs, Medicines, etc.**, advanced by ₹48 lakhs (£320,000) to ₹358·85 lakhs (£2,392,000), of which **cigarettes** accounted for an increase of ₹15·22 lakhs (£101,500), **alizarine and aniline** dyes of ₹9·72 lakhs (£64,800), and **camphor** of ₹4 lakhs (£27,000).

The transactions in **Treasure** were of extraordinary dimensions as in the previous year, though **Imports of Treasure** fell from ₹44·58 crores (29·72 millions sterling) to ₹42·28 crores (28·19 millions sterling), the difference being ₹2·30 crores (1·53 millions sterling) or 5·2 per cent. There was a decrease of ₹7·91 crores (5·27 millions sterling) or 45·5 per cent in imports on Government account, but larger imports on private account which rose from ₹27·2 crores (18·13 millions sterling) to ₹32·82 crores (21·88 millions sterling), equal to 20·6 per cent of the previous year's figures.

The descriptions of **gold and silver** imported were **in lakhs of rupees** and **thousands of pounds sterling:—**

| | Gold | | Silver | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Bullion . . . | 10,73·89 | =7,159 | 17,45·29 | =11,635 |
| Sovereigns . . | 9,66·87 | 6,446 | ... | ... |
| Government of India rupees . . | ... | ... | 1,20·84 | 806 |
| Other coins . . | 34·50 | 230 | 2,87·06 | 1,914 |

## EXPORTS

**Exports** represented 52·9 per cent of this grand total, and amounted to ₹182·63 crores (121·75 millions sterling) as against ₹182·28 crores (121·52 millions sterling) in the previous year. The increase was, therefore, one of ₹35 lakhs (£233,000), representing an advance of ·2 per cent on the figures for 1906-07.

The **exports of Indian merchandise** rose from ₹173·08 crores (£115·4 millions) to ₹173·42 crores (115·61 millions sterling), the increment being ₹34 lakhs (£227,000) or ·2 per cent.

The only notable decrease is that of ₹5·3 crores (3·53 millions sterling) in Class VI.—**Raw Materials and Unmanufactured Articles,** which represents about 44 per cent of the total exports of Indian merchandise. The total value in this class was ₹76·23 crores (50·82 millions sterling) or 6·5 per cent less than

in the previous year. In 1906-07 **Jute** exports had for the first time exceeded **cotton** in value under equal conditions, but in the year under review, the values of raw jute fell to ₹17·97 crores (11·98 millions sterling), while those of cotton rose to ₹25·70 crores (17·13 millions sterling), as against ₹26·84 crores (17·89 millions sterling) and ₹21·98 crores (14·65 millions sterling), respectively, in the previous year. The decrease in Jute amounted to 33 per cent on the figures for 1906-07, while the increase in Cotton represents an advance of nearly 17 per cent. **Seeds** (almost entirely oil-seeds) amounted to ₹16·81 crores (11·21 millions sterling), which represents 9·7 per cent of the exports of Indian merchandise, and marked an advance of ₹3·79 crores (2·53 millions sterling) or 29 per cent on the figures for 1906-07. These figures of export exceed even those of 1904-05, the previous record year. **Raw hides** which had a value of ₹6·41 crores (4·27 millions sterling) and showed the largest single advance in 1906-07 declined by ₹2·09 crores (1·39 millions sterling) or 32·6 per cent to ₹4·32 crores (2·88 millions sterling). **Raw skins** also declined by ₹1·75 crores (1·17 millions sterling) to ₹2·73 crores (1·82 millions sterling).

**Articles of Food and Drink** showed an increase of ₹4·44 crores (2·96 millions sterling), the total value being about ₹44·67 crores (29·78 millions sterling), as against ₹40·24 crores (26·83 millions sterling) in the previous year. Noticeable increases in this class occurred under the head of **Tea**, 44 lakhs (£293,000), **Rice**, ₹181 lakhs (£1,206,040), and **Coffee**, 12 lakhs (£80,000), while **Wheat and Wheat-flour**, which had declined to ₹7·84 crores (5·23 millions sterling) in 1906-07, rose to ₹9·14 crores (6·09 millions sterling), or by 17 per cent.

The total value of **Exports of Indian Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured** rose by ₹1·44 crores (·96 million sterling) or 3·8 per cent and amounted to ₹39·8 crores (26·2 millions sterling). Under this class **Jute goods** again took the first place as in the preceding two years with a total value of ₹18·3 crores (12·2 millions sterling) as against ₹15·72 crores (10·48 millions sterling) in 1906-07, equivalent to an advance 16·4 per cent. **Cotton manufactures** declined from ₹12·17 crores (8·11 millions sterling) to ₹10·77 crores (7·18 millions sterling), the fall amounting to ₹1·40 crores (·93 million sterling) or 11·5 per cent, chiefly under the head of **Yarns** which fell by ₹1·42 crores (·95 million sterling) to ₹8·97 crores (5·98 millions sterling). **Piece-goods** fell slightly by ₹1·62 lakhs (£10,790) to ₹1·64 crores (1·09 million sterling), but **Other Cotton Manufactures** rose by ₹3·8 lakhs (£25,000) to ₹15·61 lakhs (£104,000). The exports of **Lac** continue to increase, and in the past two years grew by nearly ₹77·5 lakhs (£516,700) or 25 per cent to a total of ₹3·88 crores (2·59 millions sterling). The exports of **Hides and Skins, raw and tanned,** dropped from ₹15·34 crores (10·23 millions sterling) to ₹10·95 crores (7·3 millions sterling), the fall being one of ₹4·39 crores (2·93 millions sterling) or more than 28·6 per cent.

**Chemicals, Drugs, etc.,** have declined by ₹51·95 lakhs (£346,000) or 4·5 per cent from ₹11·56 crores (7·71 millions sterling) to ₹11·04 crores (7·36 millions sterling).

The increase in the exports of **Metals and Manufactures thereof** from ₹97·55 lakhs (£650,000) to ₹1·11 crores (£740,000) is more than accounted for by an advance of ₹15 lakhs (£100,000) in the total value of **Manganese Ore** ₹85·89 lakhs (£573,000).

In exports of **Oils** there has been a marked rise of ₹15·96 lakhs (£106,000),

₹10·35 lakhs (£69,000) of which was in mineral oils and ₹5·61 lakhs (£37,000) in vegetable oils. The total value amounted to ₹85·82 lakhs (£572,000) as against ₹69·86 lakhs (£466,000) in 1906-07, ₹81·68 lakhs (£545,000) in 1905-06, and ₹1 crore (£667,000) in 1904-05.

**Exports of Treasure** amounted to ₹544·62 lakhs (£3,630,800), of which gold was worth ₹338·49 lakhs (£2,256,600) and silver ₹206·13 lakhs (£1,374,200). Gold produced in Indian mines was exported to the United Kingdom to the value of ₹314·02 lakhs (£2,093,300) against ₹323·37 lakhs (£2,155,800) in 1906-07. This is sent in the form of bars to London for assay and represents about 90 per cent of the exports of this metal from India. The export of silver coins, mostly Government rupees and British dollars, amounted to ₹199·67 lakhs (£1,331,100) mainly directed to the Straits, Ceylon, Arabia, Mauritius, and East Africa.

RE-EXPORTS

In the **Re-exports of Foreign Merchandise** there has been also a rise of ₹28·24 lakhs (£188,000), or slightly over 8· per cent, bringing the total value to ₹3·77 crores (£2·51 millions) as against ₹3·48 crores (£2·32 millions) in 1906-07. The largest single item in this class is as usual **Cotton Manufactures** (including **Twist and Yarn**) with a total of ₹1·48 crore (£987,000), being more by ₹17 lakhs (£113,000) than in 1906-07, by ₹7·44 lakhs (£49,600) than in 1905-06, and ₹14·04 lakhs (£93,600) in 1904-05. In **Metals and Hardware** there was a fall of ₹7·83 lakhs (£52,000), bringing the total value to ₹34·27 lakhs (£228,000). **Raw Wool** has risen by ₹3·18 lakhs (£21,000) to ₹32·77 lakhs (£218,000), **Apparel** by ₹2·36 lakhs (£16,000) to ₹19 lakhs (£126,000), and other articles by ₹20·66 lakhs (£138,000) to ₹1·11 crore (£740,000). In **Oils, Provisions, Sugar** there were declines of ₹·87 lakh (£5,800), ₹1·42 lakhs (£9,500), and ₹4·54 lakhs (£30,000), respectively.

## IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE

There was an astonishing increase in the total value of imports of merchandise, the figures for 1907-08 being 129·86 crores (£86,571,000) or 21·55 crores (£14,366,000) in advance of 1906-07, equal to an advance of approximately 20 per cent.

The following statement compares the value of the imports in 1907-08 with the annual value of imports in the preceding four years and with the average annual value of each of the four preceding quinquennial periods :—

| | ₹ | £ | Variation, taking 1882-83 as 100 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1882-83 . . . . . | 50,00,30,405 | 40,627,470 | 100 |
| Average 1883-84 to 1887-88 . | 55,74,22,027 | 42,324,612 | 111 |
| ,, 1888-89 to 1892-93 . | 66,27,15,651 | 45,783,701 | 132 |
| ,, 1893-94 to 1897-98 . | 70,90,02 563 | 42,038,119 | 142 |
| ,, 1898-99 to 1902-03 . | 75,13,53,955 | 50,090,264 | 150 |
| 1903-04 . . . . | 84,82,32,930 | 56,548,862 | 169 |
| 1904-05 . . . . . | 96,67,82,884 | 64,452,192 | 193 |
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 103,08,40,705 | 68,722,714 | 206 |
| 1906-07 . . . . . | 108,30,75,818 | 72,205,055 | 216 |
| 1907-08 . . . . . | 129,85,63,374 | 86,570,892 | 259 |
| Average 1903-04 to 1907-08 . | 104,54,99,143 | 69,699,943 | 209 |

The **principal articles of import** into India and their values during the last two years are shown in the following statement :—

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1. Cotton manufactures— | | | | |
| *Grey piece goods* | *18,70,74,000* | *=12,471,600* | *19,41,88,000* | *=12,945,900* |
| *White* „ | *7,37 95,000* | *4,919,700* | *11,82,51,000* | *7,883,400* |
| *Coloured* „ | *9,55,74,000* | *6,371,600* | *10,79,98,000* | *7,199,900* |
| *Yarn* | *3,22,32,000* | *2,148,800* | *3,69,32,000* | *2,462,100* |
| *Other sorts* | *2,05,00,000* | *1,366,600* | *2,30,56,000* | *1,537,000* |
| TOTAL | 40,91,75,000 | 27,278,300 | 48,04,25,000 | 32,028,300 |
| 2. Iron and steel | 7,56,82,000 | 5,045,400 | 9,75,16,000 | 6,501,000 |
| 3. Sugar | 8,73,81,000 | 5,825,400 | 9,22,70,000 | 6,151,300 |
| 4. Railway material | 4,15,84,000 | 2,772,200 | 7,20,08,000 | 4,800,500 |
| 5. Machinery and mill-work | 5,79,00,000 | 3,860,000 | 6,58,53,000 | 4,390,200 |
| 6. Hardware and cutlery | 2,65,35,000 | 1,769,000 | 3,16,54,000 | 2,110,300 |
| 7. Mineral oil | 2,42,69,000 | 1,617,900 | 3,15,45,000 | 2,103,000 |
| 8. Woollen manufactures | 2,05,22,000 | 1,368,100 | 2,76,76,000 | 1,845,100 |
| 9. Provisions | 2,42,33,000 | 1,615,500 | 2,74,00,000 | 1,826,600 |
| 10 Apparel | 2,11,23,000 | 1,408,200 | 2,58,30,000 | 1,722,000 |
| 11. Silk manufactures | 1,82,50,000 | 1,216,600 | 2,13,49,000 | 1,423,200 |
| 12. Copper | 1,39,31,000 | 928,700 | 2,06,34,000 | 1,375,600 |
| 13. Spices | 1,43,93,000 | 959,500 | 1,56,17,000 | 1,041,100 |
| 14. Glass and glassware | 1,21,14,000 | 807,600 | 1,44,52,000 | 963,400 |
| 15. Instruments and apparatus | 1,19,87,000 | 799,100 | 1,36,33,000 | 908,800 |
| 16. Carriages and carts | 92,46,000 | 616,400 | 1,18,00,000 | 786,600 |
| 17. Spirits | 98,69,000 | 657,900 | 1,10,44,000 | 736,200 |
| 18. Paper and pasteboard | 80,11,000 | 534,000 | 99,24,000 | 661,600 |
| 19. Silk, raw | 56,80,000 | 378,600 | 98,15,000 | 654,300 |
| 20. Drugs and medicines | 78,06,000 | 520,400 | 90,92,000 | 606,100 |
| 21. Aniline and alizarine dyes | 74,93,000 | 499,500 | 84,65,000 | 564,300 |
| 22. Tobacco | 69,33,000 | 462,200 | 84,36,000 | 562,400 |
| 23. Timber | 79,28,000 | 528,500 | 80,25,000 | 535,000 |
| 24. Salt | 66,77,000 | 445,100 | 80,21,000 | 534,700 |
| 25. Chemicals | 68,76,000 | 458,400 | 79,28,000 | 528,500 |
| 26. Matches | 63,13,000 | 420,800 | 73,77,000 | 491,800 |
| 27. Cotton | 45,89,000 | 305,900 | 70,95,000 | 473,000 |
| 28. Precious stones and pearls | 93,38,000 | 622,500 | 69,57,000 | 463,800 |
| 29. Paints and colours and painters' materials | 56,75,000 | 378,300 | 62,37,000 | 415,800 |
| 30. Beer | 60,27,000 | 401,800 | 61,11,000 | 407,400 |
| 31. Coal | 48,60,000 | 324,000 | 59,35,000 | 395,600 |
| 32. Stationery (excluding paper) | 40,40,000 | 269,300 | 44,38,000 | 295,800 |
| 33. Horses | 44,89,000 | 299,300 | 38,33,000 | 255,500 |

The most interesting features of the above list, which generally shews advance everywhere, are the high percentage of increases under **Silk, raw,** and **Railway material** (73 per cent each), **Iron and steel** (29 per cent), and **cotton manufactures,** particularly white and coloured piece goods, (17 per cent).

The value of each of the seven classes in which the articles are grouped in the trade accounts was **in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling:—**

| | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| I Animals living (mostly horses) | 53,63 = | 357 | 59,28 = | 395 | 49,41 = | 329 | 46,56 = | 310 | 44,10 = | 294 |
| II Articles of food and drink | 11,69,47 | 7,796 | 13,08,65 | 8,724 | 14,58,61 | 9,724 | 15,71,53 | 10,477 | 17,13,42 | 11,423 |
| III Metals and manufactures of metals | 16,31,13 | 10,874 | 17,13,50 | 11,423 | 17,85,67 | 11,905 | 22,64,19 | 15,095 | 30,14,30 | 20,095 |
| IV Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics and dyes | 2,75,08 | 1,834 | 2,80,41 | 1,869 | 2,97,27 | 1,982 | 3,10,86 | 2,072 | 3,58,85 | 2,392 |
| V Oils | 3,60,41 | 2,403 | 3,49,31 | 2,329 | 2,44,46 | 1,630 | 2,76,78 | 1,845 | 3,65,61 | 2,438 |
| VI Raw materials and unmanufactured articles | 3,88,92 | 2,593 | 4,22,41 | 2,816 | 4,86,13 | 3,241 | 4,39 82 | 2,932 | 5,00,40 | 3,336 |
| VII Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 46,03,68 | 30,691 | 55,34,27 | 36,895 | 59,86,85 | 39,912 | 59,21,02 | 39,474 | 69,88,95 | 46,593 |

## I.—ANIMALS, LIVING

This head is comparatively insignificant, consisting chiefly of horses imported for remount purposes, hacks, carriage horses, polo ponies, and a few high priced thoroughbreds.

The trade in horses, imported mostly from Australia and the Persian Gulf, has steadily declined in recent years—from ₹55·48 lakhs (£369,800) in 1904-05 to ₹38·33 lakhs (£255,500) in the year of report. This, it is feared, cannot be ascribed to more successful horse-breeding in India but to the increasing popularity of the motor car. Average value in 1907-08 was ₹460 (£31) per head as against ₹453 (£30) in the previous year.

The trade in other animals is inconsiderable, the only noticeable item being the import from South America last year of 1,500 mules valued at 3 lakhs of rupees (£20,000).

## II.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

The values in rupees and pounds sterling during the last three years of the principal articles in this group have been :—

| | 1905-06. | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Sugar | 7,77,45,199 = | 5,183,013 | 8,73,81,114 = | 5,825,407 | 9,22,70,442 = | 6,151,363 |
| Provisions | 2,38,56,186 | 1,590,412 | 2,42,33,411 | 1,615,561 | 2,74.00,093 | 1,826,673 |
| Liquors | 2,01,78,125 | 1,345,208 | 1,85,67,661 | 1,237,844 | 2,00,49,118 | 1,336,608 |
| Spices | 1,10,05,884 | 733,725 | 1,43,92,903 | 959,527 | 1,56,16,955 | 1,041,130 |
| Salt | 65.71,870 | 438,125 | 66,77,390 | 445,159 | 80,21,186 | 534,746 |
| Tea | 18,34,928 | 122,328 | 16,14,880 | 107,658 | 22,73,457 | 151,564 |

**Fruits and vegetables**—The total value of the trade is ₹15 lakhs (£100,000) against ₹9 lakhs (£60,000) in 1906-07, shewing an increase of 66 per cent. Of this increase cocoanut kernel or copra, chiefly imported from Ceylon and the Seychelles, accounts for ₹1·65 lakhs (£11,000) and 'Other sorts' ₹4·15 lakhs (£27,600), which includes fresh fruits and vegetables.

The oversea import of fresh fruit is comparatively small, and confined to mangosteens and pine apples from the Straits and apples from South Australia, but until cold storage on a large scale is established at the larger ports the trade is unfortunately not capable of any great expansion.

**Liquors** are distinguished in the accounts under the sub-heads, malt liquors, spirits, and wines. In all three classes there was an increase in total values, and except in the case of malt liquors, in quantity imported also. The following statement summarises the trade of the last two years :—

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Gals | ₹ | £ | Gals | ₹ | £ |
| Malt-liquors | 4,926,513 | 60,58,336 = | 403,889 | 4,889,171 | 61,38,973 = | 409,265 |
| Spirits | 1,488,361 | 98,69.497 | 657,966 | 1,160,292 | 1,10,44,021 | 736,268 |
| Wines | 329,342 | 26,39,828 | 175,988 | 247,077 | 28,66,124 | 191,075 |

In **Beer** the decline is one of 0·7 per cent in quantity, but there is an increase of 1·4 per cent in value, and an increase in specific value of 2·4 per cent. The United Kingdom did 91·4 per cent of the beer trade in 1907-08, while Germany contributed about 7·7 per cent and other foreign countries about 0·9 per cent. The total receipts were 4,879,908 gallons as compared with 4,916,294 gallons in 1906-07, and to these should be added the figures of production in Indian breweries amounting to 5,610,121 gallons in 1907 as compared with 5,599,930 gallons in the previous year, in order to arrive at an approximate estimate of the consumption of beer in India.

The factor of indigenous production is even more prominent in respect of **spirits**. The following statement shows the totals in **gallons** of all spirits including liqueurs and methylated and perfumed spirits imported from the several principal countries, and the quantity issued from distilleries in India during the last three years :—

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom . . . | 827,511 | 766,686 | 815,860 |
| „ France . . . . | 280,702 | 256,472 | 306,473 |
| „ Germany . . . . | 197,912 | 193,575 | 210,112 |
| „ Other countries . . . | 315,367 | 271,628 | 327,847 |
| TOTAL . | 1,621,492 | 1,488,361 | 1,660,292 |
| Issued from Indian distilleries . | 9,288,013 | 8,258,233 | 9,052,738 |

The imports were restricted in 1906-07 owing to enhanced rates of duty under the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, I of 1906.

The potable spirit imported from " other countries " is chiefly Colombo arrack, rum from the Straits and Java, and gin from Holland.

The quantities of the principal descriptions of potable spirits imported were (in gallons) :—

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Whisky . . . . . | 649,395 | 592,514 | 635,834 |
| Brandy . . . . . | 406,123 | 333,957 | 399,603 |
| Gin . . . . . | 79,088 | 68,575 | 77,139 |
| Rum . . . . . | 75,725 | 65,579 | 71,433 |
| Other sorts . . . . . | 175,119 | 143,125 | 147,496 |
| TOTAL . | 1,385,450 | 1,203,750 | 1,331,505 |

The decline in the imports of **wines**, which but for interruption in 1905-06 had been going on for some years, was temporarily checked in the year under review, a quantitative increase of 5·4 per cent being accompanied by a rise of 8·6 per cent in total value to R28·6 lakhs (£191,000). The difference in percentage marks a rise of $3\frac{2}{3}$ per cent in the average value per gallon, which is now R8-4-1½ (11*s* 1·3*d*) against R8-0-0¼ (10*s* 8¼*d*) in the previous year.

**Provisions**—This term as applied to foreign merchandise covers a number of heads, and several of these are of a very comprehensive character, though of relatively small amount. **Dried fruits**, for instance, represent a value of R84·9 lakhs (£566,000) and consist mainly of **almonds and dates**, but the term covers many other fruits imported in smaller quantities. **Dates**, the largest single item under Provisions, represent a total value of nearly R50·5 lakhs (£336,000) with a quantity of 49,952 cwts, representing an advance of 4·4 per cent in value and of 4·3 per cent in quantity. The specific value of the article remained the same as last year, *i.e.*, R5·94 or 7·92 shillings per cwt. The trade in **salted fish** rose in quantity to 240,043 cwts, and increased in value to R27·18 lakhs (£181,200).

The import of foreign **biscuits** increased from R22·78 lakhs (£151,900) in 1906-07 to R25·02 lakhs (£166,800) in 1907-08, and continues to compete with 'swadeshi' biscuit factories in meeting the demand, which is of comparatively recent growth, but enlarging year by year, for this class of article. **Canned and bottled provisions** increased by 9·5 per cent from R24·96 lakhs (£166,400) to R27·33 lakhs (£182,200), and **Farinaceous foods** from R26·36 lakhs (£175,800) to R30·36 lakhs (£202,400) or by 15 per cent.

The comprehensive category of **"Other sorts"** of provisions increased to R33·3 lakhs (£222,000), which marks an increase of R1·04 lakh (£6,900) or 3·2 per cent, while the value of the whole class increased from R242·33 lakhs (£1,615,500) to R274 lakhs (£1,826,600).

**Salt**—The successive reductions of salt duty in India have resulted in a steady growth in consumption (save for a temporary set-back in 1905-06) as is illustrated by the table below:—

| | Duty | | Consumption | Increase (+) or decrease (—) per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | British India excluding Burma | Burma | | |
| | R | R | Tons | |
| 1902-03 . . | 2·8 and 2 | 1 | 1,346,830 | +3·05 |
| 1903-04 . . | 2 | 1 | 1,381,344 | +2·56 |
| 1904-05 . . | 2 and 1-8 | 1 | 1,437,499 | +4·07 |
| 1905-06 . . | 1-8 | 1 | 1,417,961 | —1·36 |
| 1906-07 . . | 1-8 and 1 | 1 | 1,488,747 | +4·99 |
| 1907-08 (estimated)* | 1 | 1 | 1,629,411* | +9·45 |

In 1907-08 the imports of salt increased in quantity by 19·4 per cent and in value by 20·1 per cent, the figures being 558,684 tons and R80·21 lakhs (£535,000) as compared with 467,949 tons and R66·77 lakhs (£445,100) in 1906-07, and 464,531 tons and R65·72 lakhs (£438,100) in 1905-06. This seems to point to the abandonment of the boycott which had been maintained with some success for the preceding two years. The price of Liverpool salt *ex*-ware-house in Calcutta was R63 per 100 maunds (8,229 lbs) in April 1907, rose to R80 in May, gradually receded to R50 in August, and remained at that figure at the close of the financial year.

The following table shows the quantities of salt imported from each foreign country during the last three years:—

| | 1905-06 Tons | 1906-07 Tons | 1907-08 Tons |
|---|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom . . | 201,530 | 220,917 | 197,327 |
| „ Germany . . . . | 48,162 | 63,900 | 68,443 |
| „ Spain . . . . | 27,686 | 60,068 | 85,966 |
| „ Turkey, Asiatic . . . | ... | 5,600 | 9,936 |
| „ Aden . . . . | 95,677 | 59,718 | 79,290 |
| „ Arabia . . . . | 72,239 | 33,158 | 81,450 |
| „ Persia . . . . | 1,666 | 1,879 | ... |
| „ Egypt . . . . | 17,561 | 20,692 | 36,234 |
| „ Other countries . . . | 10 | 17 | 38 |
| TOTAL . | 464,531 | 467,949 | 558,684 |

There was a considerable decline (23,590 tons or 10·7 per cent) in the imports of Liverpool salt to be set off against larger imports from Spain. Germany also improved its position, but the most remarkable increase is in the figures for Aden and Arabia, which together were 69·4 per cent larger than in 1906-07, and but slightly below the figures for 1905-06. There was also a larger import from Egypt, now a manufacturing country and not merely an entrepôt, where the Government monopoly has recently been abolished.

**Spices**—The quantity of spices imported into India in 1907-08 shewed an insignificant increase from 128,156,418 lbs to 128,863,048 lbs, but there was an increase in value from R144 lakhs (£960,000) to R156 lakhs (£1,040,000), representing a rise in specific value of 8 per cent. **Betelnuts** did not occupy so prominent a share of these imports as in the previous year, there being a decline in quantity from 53,452 tons to 50,687 tons and in value from 115·35 lakhs (£769,000) to 106·13 lakhs (£707,500). The Straits Settlements contributed 87 per cent of the total, and of the receiving ports Calcutta took 61 and Madras nearly 23 per cent. There was a large increase in the imports of Zanzibar **cloves** amounting to 54 per cent in quantity from 1,829 tons to 2,814 tons and 59·8 per cent in value from R15·29 lakhs (£101,900) to R24·44 lakhs (£162,900), with a rise of 4 per cent in specific value despite an exceptional crop in the two islands.

Other spices which have shown marked increases are **pepper** and **ginger**. The former has risen from 1,061,826 lbs, valued at R4·20 lakhs (£28,000), to 3,785,973 lbs, valued at R10·34 lakhs (£68,900), the increased percentages being 256·6 and 146 respectively. The specific value has, therefore, declined by 31·1 per cent. **Ginger** increased from 1,026,344 lbs, valued at R1·70 lakhs (£11,361), to 2,052,786 lbs, valued at R3·77 lakhs (£25,100), both the quantity and value having more than doubled those of the previous year.

**Sugar**—The world's sugar trade during the twelve months under review was, on the whole, uneventful, and distinguished by the absence of any great fluctuations of prices. There were, however, several disquieting features which deserve record. The year opened with a limited demand for sugar in the United Kingdom owing to the conviction of refiners that the import duties upon the article would be abolished or reduced, but prices began to improve when the appearance of the Budget negatived these fears, and it became evident that the world's consumption was going to exceed expectations and the but slightly increased sowings of beet on the Continent were not sufficient to provide for all the requirements of the campaign. At the end of April the price for first products beet 88 per cent analysis f. o. b. Hamburg had stiffened to 9*s* 5*d*, and in May the rate had further advanced to 10*s*. 2¼*d* owing to unfavourable season reports from all the beet growing countries of the Continent except Austria and the prospects of shortage of supplies for refineries in the United States of America and this market stability was maintained until the end of September.

In October-November a spell of weather favourable to the Continental beet crop brought prices down again to 9*s* 2¼*d*, but from this point there was a partial recovery as it became clearer that the beet production of the Continent would be some 200,000 tons less than that of the previous campaign, and the year 1907 closed with beet at 9*s* 11½*d* per cwt. The new tariff opportunely attracted to Canada large quantities of sugar which the markets of the United Kingdom and the United States were unable to absorb owing to the financial crisis. Meanwhile it had been agreed by the parties to the Brussels Convention that His Majesty's Government should be exempted with effect from September 1st, 1908, from the obligation to enforce the penal clauses against the imports of bounty-fed sugar, a request which had at one time created apprehensions that the Convention would not be renewed, while the adhesion of Russia was secured on terms which are generally regarded as satisfactory, her exports between September 1st, 1907, and September 1st, 1909, being limited by protocol to 300,000 tons, and to 200,000 tons thereafter, subject to a maximum of 1,000,000 tons during the currency of the Act of 1902 and Additional Act of 1907.

The prospects of the Cuban cane crop dominated the market in the early months of the calendar year, and as the effects of the autumn drought there became apparent, estimates of the total production had to be seriously curtailed, and with renewed reports of increased beet requirements in America, a marked advance in prices occurred in March, and the closing price for 88 per cent prompt beet f. o. b. Hamburg was 11*s* 4*d* as compared with 9*s* 3*d* twelve months earlier.

Mr. F. O. Licht's estimates of the supply of beet and cane for the current campaign (ending August 31, 1908), which includes the stocks carried over from the previous year, are 6,575,000 tons and 5,227,500 tons respectively, but the latter figures do not include the total production of India, but only her exportable surplus which is given as 15,000 tons only. The total production of potential sugar in India—from cane and palm—has been estimated at 5,000,000 tons, but it is doubtful whether this represents on a liberal estimate more than 1,000,000 tons commercially available. Recent experience has confirmed Mr. Nöel Paton's estimate that the outturn of raw sugar per acre under cane in India does not exceed 1·25 tons, as compared with 2 tons in Cuba, 3·44 tons in Java, and 4·02 tons in Hawaii. It is remarkable that in a cane-growing country like India the price of imported beet should continue to dominate the market, even when the imports of cane sugar continue to advance at its expense and represent in the year under review no less than 92·1 per cent of the total. As a producer, it would seem that India is losing rather than gaining ground. She is far behind all other cane-growing countries in acreage outturn, and unless this is improved the erection of more factories for the scientific crushing of cane to supersede the wasteful and primitive methods of manufacture from *gur* will not be sufficient to prevent increased competition on the part of imported sugar, and particularly of cane sugar, from the adjacent markets of Java and Mauritius. This is clearly illustrated in the table below, which shews the arrivals of cane and beet sugar in each of the last five years, though it must be remembered that the countries of shipment are not in all cases identical with the country of production and refinery:—

| | 1903-04 Cwts | 1904-05 Cwts | 1905-06 Cwts | 1906-07 Cwts | 1907-08 Cwts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Cane*— | | | | | |
| Mauritius | 2,616,655 | 1,823,675 | 2,013,012 | 2,310,023 | 2,600,099 |
| China | 348,898 | 285,027 | 130,628 | 51,279 | 61,921 |
| Java | 1,335,548 | 2,091,508 | 1,686,003 | 3,304,366 | 6,507,754 |
| Straits | 229,993 | 211,040 | 150,875 | 40,745 | 37,896 |
| United Kingdom | 585,412 | 70,896 | 106,360 | 109,775 | 16,532 |
| Other countries | 368,872 | 351,163 | 176,051 | 110,660 | 26,639 |
| TOTAL | 5,485,378 | 4,833,309 | 4,262,929 | 5,926,848 | 9,250,841 |
| *Beet*— | | | | | |
| Austria Hungary | 299,259 | 1,441,240 | 2,340,717 | 1,617,160 | 695,172 |
| Germany | 7,205 | 176,488 | 712,440 | 2,001,316 | 78,507 |
| United Kingdom | 51,865 | 50,452 | 177,682 | 67,267 | 9,360 |
| Other Countries | 194,408 | 48,308 | 202,423 | 118,091 | 11,021 |
| TOTAL | 552,737 | 1,716,488 | 3,433,262 | 3,803,834 | 794,060 |
| Total sugar, excluding molasses and confectionery | 6,038,115 | 6,549,797 | 7,696,191 | 9,730,682 | 10,044,901 |
| Value ₹ | 5,77,23,413 | 6,71,08,487 | 7,50,02,109 | 8,18,28,277 | 8,79,19,287 |
| Value £ | 3,848,227 | 4 473,899 | 5,000,141 | 5,455,218 | 5,861,286 |

The **imports of sugar of both kinds** together expanded by 314,200 cwts in quantity and ₹60·91 lakhs (£406,000) in value. This represents an increase

of 3·2 per cent in quantity and 7·4 per cent in value with a net increase of 4 per cent in specific value.

In **cane sugar** the increase was one of 3,323,993 cwts or 56·1 per cent in quantity and ₹317·48 lakhs (£2,116,500) or 65·3 per cent in value, but the specific value increased by 6 per cent only.

In **beet sugar** the decrease amounted to 3,009,774 cwts or 79·1 per cent in quantity and ₹256·57 lakhs (£1,710,500) or 77·3 per cent in total value, the rise in specific value being 8·6 per cent.

The imports from Java of refined sugar were more than double the record quantity received in 1906-07, and from this source came 62·7 per cent of the entire arrivals, much of which would have in the ordinary course been earmarked for consumption in the United States of America. Mauritius accounted for 27·4 per cent, as compared with 24·6 per cent in the previous year. The shipments from the Straits consisted almost entirely of accumulations of China sugar.

The fall in the imports of beet was to a large extent accounted for by the shortage of crops in Germany and Austria-Hungary, particularly the former, whose share declined from 21·7 to ·82 per cent of the total. Austria-Hungary imported nearly a million cwts less than in 1906-07, and her share fell from 17·53 to 7·2 per cent.

The Indian sugar crop which came into commercial consideration during the statistical year was that harvested in 1907-08, and it may be of interest to compare the estimated acreage and production with that of the previous five years according to the annual forecasts. The area increased, but owing to failure of rain, all but the irrigated crops suffered severely, and the outturn which, it should be remembered, represents *gur* (molasses) and not refined sugar was 14 per cent lower than in 1906-07.

| | Acres | Cwts |
|---|---|---|
| 1902-03 | 2,207,829 | 38,135,680 |
| 1903-04 | 2,114,592 | 37,439,720 |
| 1904-05 | 2,244,800 | 43,380,000 |
| 1905-06 | 2,111,000 | 34,510,000 |
| 1906-07 | 2,351,800 | 44,106,000 |
| 1907-08 | 2,620,700 | 41,038,000 |

The prices of beet and Java sugar at Bombay, Karachi, and Calcutta at the beginning of April and November 1907, January and April 1908, were as follows:—

| | | Bombay per cwt | | | Karachi per cwt | | | Calcutta per cwt | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | a. | p. | ₹ | a. | p. | ₹ | a. | p. |
| Beet | April 1907 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 3 |
| | November „ | 10 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 11 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 0 |
| | January 1908 | 9 | 12 | 0 | 9 | 10 | 0 | ... | | |
| | April „ | 11 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 14 | 3 |
| Java | April 1907 | 9 | 14 | 0 | ... | | | 8 | 14 | 11 |
| | November „ | 10 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 15 | 7 |
| | January 1908 | 9 | 11 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 9 |
| | April „ | 11 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 10 | 12 | 2 |

The monthly arrivals in India in the last twelve months of cane and beet (quantities and values) and the average values were as follows:

| | | Cane | | | | | Beet | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Quantity | Value | | Average value | | Quantity | Value | | Average value | |
| | | Cwts | ₹ | £ | ₹ | s | Cwts | ₹ | £ | ₹ | s |
| April | 1907 | 470,905 | 38,89,862 | 259,324 | 8·3 | 11·1 | 85,365 | 6,80,284 | 45,352 | 8·0 | 10·6 |
| May | „ | 449,955 | 39,83,995 | 265,600 | 8·9 | 11·8 | 77,761 | 7,22,780 | 48,185 | 9·3 | 12·4 |
| June | „ | 376,624 | 33,06,418 | 220,428 | 8·8 | 11·7 | 45,558 | 4,48,850 | 29,923 | 9·8 | 13·1 |
| July | „ | 832,777 | 72,38,563 | 482,571 | 8·7 | 11·6 | 119,503 | 11,78,347 | 78,557 | 9·8 | 13·1 |
| August | „ | 819,818 | 70,35,948 | 469,063 | 8·6 | 11·4 | 84,019 | 8,02,725 | 53,515 | 9·5 | 12·7 |
| September | „ | 912,856 | 80,01,909 | 533,460 | 8·8 | 11·7 | 19,990 | 1,84,508 | 12,301 | 9·2 | 12·3 |
| October | „ | 1,354,577 | 1,18,00,154 | 786,677 | 8·7 | 11·6 | 18,465 | 1,89,298 | 12,620 | 10·3 | 13·7 |
| November | „ | 984,464 | 83,59,301 | 557,287 | 8·5 | 11·3 | 27,610 | 2,75,657 | 18,377 | 10·0 | 13·3 |
| December | „ | 910,120 | 77,86,587 | 519,106 | 8·6 | 11·4 | 52,149 | 4,88,672 | 32,578 | 9·4 | 12·5 |
| January | 1908 | 925,562 | 81,25,721 | 541,715 | 8·8 | 11·7 | 89,834 | 8,59,832 | 57,322 | 9·6 | 12·8 |
| February | „ | 530,198 | 46,67,986 | 311,199 | 8·8 | 11·7 | 68,372 | 6,53,124 | 43·542 | 9·5 | 12·7 |
| March | „ | 682,985 | 62,00,394 | 413.359 | 9·1 | 12·1 | 105,434 | 10,38,372 | 69,225 | 9·8 | 13·1 |
| TOTAL | | 9,250,841 | 8,03,96,838 | 5,359,789 | 8·7 | 11·6 | 794,060 | 75,22,449 | 501,497 | 9·5 | 12·7 |

a—The imports of foreign tea, which includes tea from Ceylon, increased in quantity by 45·8 per cent to 3,910,714 lbs and in value by 40·8 per cent to R22·73 lakhs (£151,500). The imports from the United Kingdom increased from 18,752 to 66,394 lbs.

The average value of the imported tea declined by about 3 per cent to annas 9 pies 4 (9⅛*d*) per lb. which is yet a higher price than the general quality of the imports would seem to warrant. In teas from Ceylon the advance of price from 6 annas (6*d*) to 7½ annas (7½*d*) per lb is noticeable, but for China teas, the average rate fell by nearly 8·4 per cent to annas 12 (1*s*) per lb. The imports from Ceylon increased by 608,831 lbs or about 75 per cent to 1,421,700 lbs, while black tea from China increased by 165·8 per cent to 404,368 lbs, and green tea by 22·4 per cent to 1,116,800 lbs. Estimates of re-exportation must be taken with some reserve, for it is known that, more especially on the land routes, foreign tea and Indian tea are not always accurately distinguished. Subject to this reservation it is estimated that 991,305 lbs were re-exported by sea and 461,104 lbs by land, making a total of 1,452,409 lbs, of which 89 per cent was black tea. This represents 22·6 per cent of the imports by sea and land. On the average of the last five years it would appear that as much as 4,526,000 lbs of foreign tea are yearly retained for consumption in India.

## III.—METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS

The imports of **Hardware and Cutlery** represent 10·5 per cent of the total imports of metals and manufactures of metals. From the following statement it will appear that they have increased in value by R51·19 lakhs (£341,300) or 19·3 per cent in the last year :—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Cutlery | 14,05,128 = | 93,675 | 14,08,040 = | 93,869 | 18,29,627 = | 121,975 |
| Agricultural implements | 8,29,758 | 55,317 | 10,55,914 | 70,394 | 13,27,478 | 88,498 |
| Other implements and tools | 13,24,443 | 88,296 | 16,56,825 | 110,455 | 19,53,151 | 130,210 |
| Enamelled ironware | 13,23,689 | 88,246 | 18,78,959 | 125,264 | 24,48,803 | 163,254 |
| Sewing machines | 10,86,095 | 72,406 | 11,79,722 | 78,648 | 11,43,342 | 76,223 |
| Unspecified hardware | 1,66,88,216 | 1,112,548 | 1,93,55,598 | 1,290,373 | 2,29,52,162 | 1,530,144 |
| TOTAL | 2,26,57,329 | 1,510,488 | 2,65,35,058 | 1,769,003 | 3,16,54,563 | 2,110,304 |

**Enamelled ironware** maintains the premier place among the specific classes with an increase of 30·3 per cent over the figures of the previous year, and its expansion has peculiar interest as marking the extent to which the high prices of copper and brass have led the common people to replace their distinctive domestic utensils with this class of imports. Of this trade Germany is credited with 60·7 per cent as against 68 per cent in 1906-07, and Austria with 29·7 per cent.

The value of imports of **cutlery** increased by R4·21 lakhs (£28,100) or by about 30 per cent, and of **Agricultural implements** by R2·71 lakhs (£18,100) or by 25·7 per cent, but the latter is a market capable of almost indefinite expansion. The value of **unspecified hardware** increased by R35·96 lakhs (£239,700) or by 18·6 per cent, and this head covers **Lampware** which stood at R26·88 lakhs (£179,200), an increase of R3·3 lakhs (£22,000) or of 14 per cent. The expansion in this item points to eventual substitution of mineral for vegetable illuminants by the common people.

In the **hardware** and **cutlery** trade the share of the United Kingdom, taken as a whole, declined from 65·9 per cent to 62·8 per cent, though it showed an increase in value of R23·97 lakhs (£159,800). The share of Germany increased by R15·83 lakhs (£105,500) or by 37·3 per cent, and now represents 18·4 per

cent of the total. Greater accuracy has been attained in classification of goods as to country of origin, but it is possible that she ought to have been credited with some of the shipments from Belgium. The two countries conjointly increased their total by some ₹17·62 lakhs (£117,500) and now hold 23·8 per cent of the trade as against 21·8 per cent in the previous year. Austria-Hungary representing 5·1 per cent of the whole increased by ₹3·76 lakhs (£25,000) or 29·8 per cent, but Russia's share as for the last three years has been practically negligible.

The imports of **Metals** represent 10·2 per cent of the total value of imported merchandise. In 1907-08 the quantity increased from 547,629 tons to 648,062 tons, and the total value rose from ₹1,004 lakhs (£6,690,000) to ₹1,319 lakhs (£8,793,000). The quantitative increase amounts to 18·3 per cent and the increase in total value and in specific value to 31·4 and 11 per cent respectively. That such an advance should be accompanied by an increased demand in so large and composite an item of trade is perhaps one of the most striking indications which the year's statistics provide of India's economic development.

**Brass** is in increasing demand, and the total imports in 1907-08 amounted to 21,733 cwts valued at ₹12·96 lakhs (£86,400), against 11,138 cwts valued at ₹7·56 lakhs (£50,400) in the previous year. The increase in quantity was as much as 95·1 per cent, while the specific value declined by 12 per cent in sympathy no doubt with the fall in copper values during the year.

**Copper**—Not since 1887-88, when the Société des Metaux had temporarily cornered the world market, was the price of copper so high as at the beginning of the year under review, and this was chiefly due to the manipulation of powerful operators in America who succeeded by increasing the output of the mines and offering diminishing quantities for sale to create the impression that consumption was outstripping production. When the accumulation of an enormous unsold stock was disclosed at a time of great monetary stringency, the effect upon prices was sensational, and the year, which had opened with Chili bars at £106-10 per ton, closed with a quotation of £60-15.

The Indian demand for the metal is comparatively small, in fact annually less than $\frac{1}{70}$th of the world's estimated production. The advance recorded in the imports of the year under review should be attributed to the extending use of electricity in India rather than to any intensification of the demand for the metal for domestic utensils which is peculiarly sensitive to the effects of seasonal adversity.

**Wrought copper** represents 82 per cent of the whole copper imports. It increased in quantity by 31·1 per cent and in value by 31·6 per cent, the rise in specific value being only 0·2 per cent. The actual receipts amounted to 258,897 cwts and ₹170·06 lakhs (£1,133,700) as compared with 197,416 cwts and ₹129·24 lakhs (£861,600) in the previous year. The imports of **unwrought copper** came to 55,759 cwts and ₹35,41,784 (£236,119)—an increase of 324 per cent in quantity and 279 per cent in value, the average value being ₹63·52 (£4-4-8¼) against ₹70·97 (£4-14-7½) in 1906-07. The bulk of the shipments was received in the latter part of the year when the collapse of prices attracted Indian buyers, and the imports from April 1908 onwards have continued on an unprecedentedly large scale.

India's potentialities as a producer of copper are yet to be seen. Prospecting operations are in progress in Singbhum (Bengal), and diamond drilling has proved the persistence of the copper lodes to depths over 1,000 feet, but it is still

doubtful if their richness and thickness are sufficient throughout to warrant the capital outlay necessary for systematic mining.

**Iron and Steel**—Up to the time of the crisis in October, activity in the iron and steel industries of the world had been remarkably well maintained. The three countries which control the output and distribution of these metals are the United States, Germany, and Great Britain, and for reasons which it is unnecessary to detail, the **price of Cleveland warrants** has for upwards of thirty years been recognised as the barometer of the trade. The rates per ton of Cleveland pig iron No. 3 during the twelve months under review are therefore worth examining and given below :—

| | | £ | s | d | | | £ | s | d |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| April | 1907 | 2 | 14 | 6½ | October | 1907 | 2 | 15 | 10½ |
| May | „ | 3 | 0 | 0 | November | „ | 2 | 12 | 6 |
| June | „ | 3 | 1 | 6 | December | „ | 2 | 9 | 9 |
| July | „ | 2 | 17 | 6 | January | 1908 | 2 | 8 | 9 |
| August | „ | 2 | 17 | 6 | February | „ | 2 | 8 | 0 |
| September | „ | 2 | 15 | 3 | March | „ | 2 | 10 | 9 |

The early part of the year was marked by a sustained American and Continental demand, but the fall in values which began in July gave some premonition of prospective weakness, and though the depletion of stocks continued long after the crash, this was only in consequence of prior contracts entered into, for there were general indications of restricted future demand in all the great industries which require these metals—particularly in shipbuilding.

America endeavoured to meet the situation by greatly reducing her output, but the German Steel Syndicate declined to admit the existence of any serious depression, and her proportionate share of the world's production of pig iron in 1907-08 is therefore much higher than before.

The following statement gives the total values of the **Imports of iron and steel** into India distinctly and conjointly in each of the last five years :—

| | Iron | | Steel | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 | 3,38,07,892 | =2,253,859 | 2,62,10,257 | =1,747,350 | 6,00,18,149 | =4,001,209 |
| 1904-05 | 3,78,51,121 | 2,523,408 | 2,34,03,379 | 1,560,225 | 6,12,54,500 | 4,083,633 |
| 1905-06 | 3,40,76,911 | 2,271,794 | 3,23,62,181 | 2,157,479 | 6,64,39,092 | 4,429,273 |
| 1906-07 | 4,31,83,326 | 2,878,889 | 3,24,98,703 | 2,166,580 | 7,56,82,029 | 5,045,468 |
| 1907-08 | 4,96,68,718 | 3,311,248 | 4,78,47,141 | 3,189,809 | 9,75,15,859 | 6,501,057 |

The imports of iron increased by ₹64·85 lakhs (£432,300) or by over 15 per cent, and of steel by ₹153·48 lakhs (£ 1,023,200) or by 46· 9 per cent. The share of iron has been 50·9 per cent, and that of steel 49·1 per cent, of the total trade.

The Indian market was generally steady and demand well maintained to the very close of the year, though the easier prices prevailing in Europe are said to have encouraged latterly some speculative buying. The price of iron bars (Swedish rolled) in Calcutta in April 1907 was ₹8-8-0 (11*s* 4*d*) per cwt, and the usual trade depression of the monsoon months was extended until December when the rate rose from ₹7-12-0 to 8-6-0 (10*s* 4*d* to 11*s* 2*d*) and in January to ₹9-8-0 (12*s* 8*d*), but there was some weakening in March, and the closing price for the year was ₹9 (12*s*).

From the statement below it will be seen that the arrivals from the United Kingdom increased by 13,017 tons or 3·9 per cent and now represent 56·3 per cent of the total quantity imported, as compared with 63·8 per cent in 1906-07. Her share in the total value was 63·2 per cent or ₹617·08 lakhs (£4,113,900) as against 70·5 per cent or 534·24 lakhs (£3,561,600) in 1906-07. In iron she

decreased her shipments by 1,236 tons or about 0·6 per cent, but in steel she increased her shipments by 14,253 tons or 11·5 per cent, while Germany and Belgium increased largely in both—in iron by 15,810 tons and in steel by 37,430 tons.

| | Total | | | United Kingdom | | | Germany and Belgium | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Iron tons | Steel tons | Total tons | Iron tons | Steel tons | Total tons | Iron tons | Steel tons | Total tons |
| Bars | 38,884 | 99,146 | 138,030 | 8,269 | 11,851 | 20,120 | 29,251 | 86,808 | 116,059 |
| Sheets and plates | 3,658 | 77,584 | 81,242 | 478 | 49,963 | 50,441 | 3,174 | 27,417 | 30,591 |
| „ „ galvanised | 93,813 | ... | 93,813 | 91,707 | ... | 91,707 | 1,738 | ... | 1,738 |
| „ „ tinned | 17,343 | ... | 17,343 | 17,294 | ... | 17,294 | ... | ... | ... |
| Hoop | 3,611 | 20,239 | 23,850 | 2,222 | 14,555 | 16,777 | 1,386 | 1,983 | 3,369 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod | 4,277 | ... | 4,277 | 731 | ... | 731 | 2,888 | ... | 2,888 |
| Angle, channel, and spring | ... | 24,257 | 24,257 | ... | 14,201 | 14,201 | ... | 10,057 | 10,057 |
| Beams, pillars, girders, and bridgework | 8,517 | 52,671 | 61,188 | 8,091 | 27,951 | 36,042 | 404 | 24,717 | 25,121 |
| Pipes and tubes | 28,470 | ... | 28,470 | 25,316 | ... | 25,316 | 1,197 | ... | 1,197 |
| Nails, screws, rivets, and waters | 15,543 | ... | 15,543 | 3,233 | ... | 3,233 | 8,597 | ... | 8,597 |
| Other sorts | 61,429 | 67,437 | 128,866 | 52,233 | 19,224 | 71,457 | 7,103 | 20,560 | 27,663 |
| Total for 1907-08 | 275,545 | 341,334 | 616,879 | 209,574 | 137,745 | 347,319 | 55,738 | 171,542 | 227,280 |
| Total for 1906-07 | 261,095 | 262,631 | 523,726 | 210,810 | 123,492 | 334,302 | 39,928 | 134,112 | 174,040 |

The **galvanised sheets and plates** shipped from Great Britain decreased by 1,574 tons. In this class the continent of Europe scarcely competes, but in **plain sheets and plates** Germany and Belgium increased by 7,961 tons, and the United Kingdom by 1,648 tons. The imports of **tinned plates** increased by 42·8 per cent in quantity and by 47·6 per cent in value which stood at ₹41·58 lakhs (£277,200), the specific value rising by 3·4 per cent. In **beams, pillars, girders, and bridgework** the imports from the United Kingdom increased by 4,565 tons and in respect of **angle, channel, and spring** her shipments were larger than those of Germany and Belgium by 4,144 tons. Imports of **pipes and tubes** declined by 14·8 per cent in quantity, but increased by 6·2 per cent in value. The total imports of pipes and tubes were ₹54·37 lakhs (£362,500), of which the United Kingdom contributed ₹46·25 lakhs (£308,300), Belgium ₹2·34 lakhs (£15,600), and the United States ₹5·35 lakhs (£35,600).

The receipts (values only) of iron and steel in the six maritime provinces have been as follows:—

| | 1906-07 | | | | 1907-08 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Iron | | Steel | | Iron | | Steel | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Bengal | 2,15,62,212 | =1,437,481 | 1,57,47,950 | =1,049,863 | 2,62,60,312 | =1,750,687 | 1,86,95,449 | =1,246,363 |
| Bombay | 92,54,465 | 616,964 | 1,04,97,649 | 699,843 | 92,14,118 | 614,275 | 1,33,48,825 | 889,922 |
| Madras | 40,13,620 | 267,575 | 11,79,383 | 78,625 | 55,70,809 | 371,387 | 19,01,305 | 126,754 |
| Sind | 9,92,784 | 66,185 | 34,87,044 | 232,470 | 12,36,598 | 82,440 | 51,18,765 | 341,251 |
| Burma | 65,62,170 | 437,478 | 13,68,361 | 91,224 | 66,17,641 | 441,176 | 81,71,126 | 544,742 |
| E. B. and Assam | 7,98,075 | 53,205 | 2,18,316 | 14,554 | 7,69,240 | 51,283 | 6,11,670 | 40,778 |
| TOTAL | 4,31,83,326 | 2,878,889 | 3,24,98,703 | 2,166,580 | 4,96,68,718 | 3,311,248 | 4,78,47,141 | 3,189,810 |

Bengal imported ₹46·98 lakhs (£313,000) under iron and ₹29·47 lakhs (£196,000) under steel more than in 1906-07. Bombay shows no advance under iron, but the import of steel rose by ₹28·51 lakhs (£190,000). Sind also imported ₹16·32 lakhs (£108,700) of steel more than in the previous year. The imports of steel into Burma also improved by ₹68·02 lakhs (£453,500). Madras imported iron worth ₹15·57 lakhs (£103,800) more than in 1906-07.

**Lead** was, like most other metals, affected by the American crisis, and the London rate for spot foreign lead, which had risen to £19-12-6 in April 1907 and £21 in October, fell to £18-10-0 in November, £14-10-0 in December, and at

the close of the official year was quoted no higher than £13·15 per ton. Indian consumption was considerably extended without quite reaching the level of 1905-06; the imports increased from 102,455 cwts and R15·8 lakhs (£105,000) to 123,077 cwts and R20·5 lakhs (£137,000). The increase is by 20·1 per cent in quantity and 29·6 per cent in value, the average price per cwt having risen from R15-7-2 (£1-0-7$\frac{1}{6}$) to R16-10-6 (£1-2-2$\frac{1}{2}$) per cwt or 7·9 per cent. The United Kingdom supplied sheets for tea chests to the value of R9·51 lakhs (£63,400) as compared with R7·8 lakhs (£52,000) in the previous year, while the imports in this class from other countries fell from R96,600 (£6,440) in 1905-07 to R84,800 (£5,650) in 1907-08, the explanation being that while the price of the British sheet rose only from R15-11-1 (£1-0-11$\frac{1}{12}$*d*) to R16-13-4 (£1-2-5$\frac{1}{3}$) per cwt, that of the foreign article rose from R12-11-5 (16*s* 11$\frac{5}{12}$*d*) to R15-12-10 (£1-1-1.) per cwt.

**Tin** is used in certain industries that are now exceptionally active: but the price of tin is, apart from speculation, subject to more violent fluctuations than that of copper for the total volume of production and consumption is smaller and a comparatively slight increase or decrease in either has a proportionately greater influence. In May 1907 the **price per ton in London for Straits tin** was about £191, and in July it was just short of £200, but in August a steady decline set in; and from £158 in October to £134 in December, bottom was eventually touched with £118 in January. Again there was a recovery, and in the last month of the official year the price quoted was £134. Bolivia is coming into prominence as a new source of the metal, but the limit of production seems to have been reached in Malaya whence India takes most of her supplies. Her imports rose from 20,336 cwts and R29·44 lakhs (£196,000) to 32,450 cwts and R43·54 lakhs (£290,300), the increase being 59·5 per cent in quantity and 48 per cent in value, the specific value having declined by 7·3 per cent only. The imports of **unwrought tin** from the Straits amounted to 28,819 cwts valued at R38,72,316 (£258,154), as against 17,486 cwts and R25·67 lakhs (£171,000) in 1906-07.

**Machinery and millw orks**—The total of the various classes of machinery imported into India in the last three years has been **(in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling)**:—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Textile . . . | 2,48,98 | = 1,660 | 2,27,45 | = 1,516 | 2,63,29 | = 1,755 |
| Steam-engines and parts | 1,00,34 | 669 | 1,31,13 | 874 | 1,37,73 | 918 |
| Electrical . . . | 23,78 | 158 | 27,04 | 180 | 29,71 | 198 |
| Mining . . . | 7,46 | 50 | 6,21 | 42 | 7,76 | 52 |
| Other sorts . . | 1,12,00 | 747 | 1,87,17 | 1,248 | 2,20,04 | 1,467 |
| TOTAL . . | 4,92,56 | 3,284 | 5,79,00 | 3,860 | 6,58,53 | 4,390 |

The steady increase under all heads emphasises the growing industrial activities of the country. The figures for 1907-08 mark a total advance of R79·53 lakhs (£530,200) equivalent to 13·7 per cent on the figures of the previous year. Bombay continues the premier port of import, with a share of 44·7 per cent and an increase of R36·3 lakhs (£242,000), chiefly under Textile machinery. In Bengal the features of the year were increased demand for steam engines for mill work (particularly jute mills), pumping, and mining machinery, and in Madras there were marked increases under electrical and textile heads.

The values of imports into the five principal maritime provinces **(in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling)** and the percentage of total imports during the year were as follows:—

| | R | | £ | Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bombay . . | 2,94,19 | = | 1,961 | 44·7 |
| Bengal . . | 2,65,95 | | 1,773 | 40·4 |
| Madras . . | 44,23 | | 295 | 6·7 |
| Burma . . | 37,39 | | 249 | 5·7 |
| Sind . . | 14,99 | | 100 | 2·3 |

**Railway Material**—The progressive expansion in the imports of railway material continues, and the figures have again attained the highest level on record. In the last five years they have been as follows **(in lakhs of rupees and thousands of pounds sterling)**:—

| 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 563·70 (£3,758) | 561·54 (£3,744) | 673·89 (£4,493) | 849·29 (£5,662) | 988·74 (£6,592) |

The increase in the twelve months under review is equivalent to 16·4 per cent. These figures include rolling stock and comprise imports for private lines (R720·08 lakhs=£4,800,500 against R415·84 lakhs=£2,772,200 in 1906-07) and for State Railways (R268·66 lakhs=£1,791,100 against R433·45 lakhs=£2,889,600 in 1906-07). Detailed comparisons with the totals of previous years are vitiated by the transfer of railway administrations from time to time from one to another class. It may be noted that during the twelve months 985·16 miles of railway were opened, while 2,457·16 miles were under construction or sanctioned on the 31st March 1908. On the same date the total length of line open in India was 30,286·65 miles.

**Chemicals**—The year was on the whole one of continued high values in the chemical trade, and the total value of the imports into **India** in 1907-08 was R79·3 lakhs (£528,600) as against R68·7 lakhs (£458,400) in 1906-07. **Bleaching materials** rose to R3·56 lakhs (£23,700) as compared with R3·39 lakhs (£22,600) in 1906-07, and **Disinfectants** to R3·97 lakhs (£26,500) as against R2·75 lakhs (£18,300) in the previous year. **Caustic Soda** advanced from R7·03 lakhs (£46,900) to R8·94 lakhs (£59,600) to meet the growing demands of match and soap factories. **Bicarbonate of Soda** also improved from R4·28 lakhs (£28,500) to R5·15 lakhs (£34,300), while **Soda, other sorts**, chiefly for washing clothes on account of its greater cheapness than Fuller's earth (*Sajimâti*), showed a remarkable increase from R1·18 lakh (£7,900) to R6·53 lakhs (£43,500), of which Bengal took R5·49 lakhs (£36,600). The comprehensive heading **Other Sorts** this year represents 37·5 per cent of the total in place of 43 per cent in 1906-07.

**Drugs and Medicines.**—The year under review opened with comparatively high prices in the drug trade generally, but there was a marked fall in values in the last six months. The total value of the imports of **Drugs and Medicines** into India advanced by 16·4 per cent, that is to say, from R78·06 lakhs (£520,400), which is the largest total previously recorded in any one year, to R90·92 lakhs (£606,100).

The quantity of **camphor** imported rose from 851,049 lbs to 1,191,921 lbs or by 40 per cent, but the value rose only from R22·99 lakhs (£153,300) to R27·05 lakhs (£180,300) or 17·7 per cent, there being a decline of 16·2 per cent in specific value, due chiefly to the menace of the synthetic substitute, but in part also to increased production not only in Formosa but also in Southern China. What further headway will be made by synthetic camphor, most of which has

hitherto been absorbed by manufacturers of celluloid, to a great extent depends upon the level of prices: it can scarcely compete with the natural product if these further decline. So far as is known there have been no imports into Calcutta or Madras as yet of synthetic camphor, and though the first shipments to Bombay from Germany mysteriously came *viâ* Singapore, the market professed no difficulty in distinguishing it from the natural product.

The total value of **Quinine** imported in the year under review rose from R6·28 lakhs (£41,900) to R7·21 lakhs (£48,100) or by 14·8 per cent, while a slightly higher quantitative advance of 15·2 per cent was recorded, bringing the total to 82,079 lbs. The figures for production of quinine and quinine bark in India during the past six years have been as follows:—

| | Production of bark | Sulphate of Quinine manufactured in Bengal Government factory | Sulphate of Quinine manufactured in Madras (includes manufacture from imported Java bark) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | lbs | lbs |
| 1902-03 . | 1,440,397 | 11,927 | 15,711 |
| 1903-04 . | 1,052,146 | 12,315 | 16,093 |
| 1904-05 . | 866,811 | 13,069 | 12,920 |
| 1905-06 . | 1,300,071 | 15,778 | 16,328 |
| 1906-07 . | 1,163,950 | 16,065 | 20,448 |
| 1907-08 . | 988,948* | 27,564 | 20,546 |

**Proprietary and Patent Medicines** have increased from R17·4 lakhs (£116,000) to R18·83 lakhs (£125,500). **Other sorts** have also risen from R20,83 lakhs (£138,900) to R25·85 lakhs (£172,300).

**Tobacco**—The decline, which was chronicled last year in the imports in foreign cigarettes, has not been maintained, though prices have further risen. The figures of quantity shew an increase from 2,912,841 lbs to 3,634,192 lbs, equal to 24·7 per cent, and total values have advanced from R45·97 lakhs (£306,500) to R61·2 lakhs (£408,000), specific value shewing a percentage increase of 6·7. Though it is estimated that the total imports of cigarettes amounted to some 1,400 millions, only the fringe of the market which is at present satisfied with the indigenous 'biri' has been touched. Cigarette factories have recently been opened at Monghyr (Bengal) and at Karachi, and considerable shipments coastwise came from the latter port and from Bombay to Calcutta. Of the total of R61·2 lakhs (£408,000), R43·37 lakhs (£289,100) came from the United Kingdom and R11·65 lakhs (£77,700) from the United States, but these figures do not correctly represent the proportion of English and American-made cigarettes imported. From Egypt R3·59 lakhs (£23,900) were received, chiefly cigarettes of good quality as is shewn by the average value R6-5-2 (8*s* 5$\frac{1}{8}$*d*) per lb, as compared with R1·14-2 (2*s* 6*d*) from the United Kingdom, R1-1-1 (1*s* 5*d*) from the United States of America, and R1-3-0 (1*s* 7*d*) from Japan and the Straits Settlements. A lb. of cigarettes represents about 400 cigarettes of low quality, or 300 of the superior grades. Imports of leaf from Sumatra and Borneo are chiefly for the coverings of "Trichinopoly" cheroots, of which only the cheapest sorts are manufactured entirely from Indian grown tobacco. Imports of Manila cigars, chiefly *viâ* Hongkong, amounted to 29,883 lbs, valued at R1,08,504 (£7,234).

**Dyes**—The year under review shows a further increase under imports of **aniline and alizarine** dyes, which are gradually capturing even the internal markets. The quantity rose from 11,736,744 lbs to 12,957,817 lbs—(aniline 6,651,355 lbs and alizarine 6,306,462 lbs) or 10·4 per cent and the value from R74·93 lakhs (£499,500) to R84·65 lakhs (£564,300) or approximately 13 per

* Incomplete.

cent. The average declared value per lb of aniline remained practically stationary at 12 as 5 pies (1*s* $0\frac{5}{12}d$) per lb, while that of alizarine rose from 7 as 11 pies ($7\frac{11}{12}d$) to 8 as 5 pies ($8\frac{5}{12}d$). Bombay continues the principal port of entry, her share representing nearly 74 per cent of the total.

## V.—OILS

Under this head the only item of importance is **mineral oil,** a market of very considerable interest and importance. The Petroleum market all over the world is exceedingly active, and consumption seems to be advancing at a greater ratio than supply. The total value of all mineral oils imported from Foreign countries into India in 1907-08 was 315·45 lakhs (£2,103,000) as compared with 242·7 lakhs (£1,618,000) in 1906-07, a rise of 30 per cent. Of this total **kerosene** is responsible for no less than 78·7 per cent, but a view of the trade would be incomplete and one-sided which omitted from consideration and comparison the factor of indigenous production, and the table below accordingly shews the quantity and value of imports coastwise from Burma along with the foreign imports, **the unit in all cases being one thousand:**

| | Quantity | | | Value | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
| | gals | gals | gals | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Russia | 7,761 | 2,249 | 9,377 | 27,04 = | 180 | 9,24 = | 62 | 34,68 = | 231 |
| United States | 22,332 | 28,836 | 24,278 | 96,24 | 642 | 1,21,87 | 812 | 1,19,92 | 800 |
| Borneo | 5,193 | 1,422 | 7,944 | 13,17 | 88 | 3,56 | 24 | 21,10 | 141 |
| Straits Settlements | 10,391 | 6,213 | 6,088 | 26,58 | 177 | 16,13 | 107 | 15,60 | 104 |
| Sumatra | 5,254 | 10,797 | 2,041 | 15·54 | 103 | 33,87 | 226 | 7,06 | 47 |
| Roumania | ... | 3,512 | 15,699 | ... | ... | 11,45 | 76 | 49,85 | 332 |
| Other Foreign Countries | 15 | 9 | 4 | 11 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 5 | ... |
| Total Foreign Countries | 50,946 | 53,038 | 65,431 | 1,78,68 | 1,191 | 1,96,19 | 1,308 | 2,48,26 | 1,655 |
| Coastwise from Burma | 47,159 | 61,834 | 63,530 | 1,62,34 | 1,082 | 2,19,50 | 1,463 | 2,26,72 | 1,511 |

From these figures it will be seen that excluding Burma's unascertainable internal **consumption** of indigenous oil, India in the last three years absorbed some 113·9 million gallons of kerosene per annum. In 1905-06 Burma oil represented 48 per cent of the total imports, and in 1906-07 53·8 per cent, but fell again in 1907-08 to 49·2 per cent.

The imports of foreign kerosene oil have advanced by 23·3 per cent and the specific value by 2·4 per cent, while the quantity of shipments from Burma to India proper only increased by 2·7 per cent.

Russia, which in 1904-05 supplied 53 per cent of imported kerosene, furnished in 1906-07 only 4·2 per cent and in 1907-08 14·3 per cent. Her share amounts in the year under review to 9,377,000 gallons with a value of ₹34·68 lakhs (£231,200) as compared with 2,249,000 gallons with ₹9·24 lakhs (£61,600) in 1906-07, but a recovery to the conditions prevailing prior to the disturbances in Baku must necessarily be slow.

The United States has not maintained the proportion (54 per cent) of the total imports she held a year ago, and Roumania has stepped into second place with imports of 15,699,682 gallons worth ₹49,85,483 (£332,365), equivalent

to 24 per cent of the total, but this does not imply the entry of new competitive interests but is explained by the accident of shipping convenience. Sumatra has fallen back from 10,797,500 gallons to 2,040,552 gallons and Singapore, which is only an entrepôt for kerosene from the Far East, from 6,213,400 gallons to 6,088,100 gallons. Borneo on the other hand has increased its direct imports from 1,422,600 gallons to 7,943,693 gallons.

**Bulk oil** in 1907-08 amounted to 49,489,900 gallons or 75·6 per cent of the whole—of which Roumania contributed 31·7 per cent, America 20 per cent, Russia 17 per cent, and Borneo 16 per cent.

Imports of foreign **case oil** aggregated 15,940,800 gallons, as compared with 13,826,200 gallons in 1906-07; of this America supplied 90·4 per cent, Russia 6 per cent, and Sumatra 2·7 per cent.

The following are the **average prices** of the leading descriptions of case oil in Calcutta during the last three years:—

| | | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. | ₹ a. p. |
| *American*— | | | | |
| Chester | per case | 4 2 9 | 4 7 6 | 4 8 8 |
| *Russian*— | | | | |
| Ram | „ | 3 9 7 | 3 15 10 | 4 4 10 |
| *Burma*— | | | | |
| Victoria | per 2 tins | 2 11 6 | 3 3 6 | 3 7 10 |
| Gold Mohur | „ | 2 14 6 | 3 10 1 | 3 13 0 |
| *Borneo*— | | | | |
| Cobra | „ | 2 11 11 | 3 5 4 | 3 8 11 |
| *Sumatra*— | | | | |
| Silver-light | per case | 4 13 8 | 4 14 0 | 5 12 0 |

It will be noticed that there has been a steady hardening of rates during the triennium, but, it is believed that, thanks to the competition of rival interests, India yet enjoys the benefit of prices 25 per cent lower than any other country in the East.

The imports of **Fuel oil,** chiefly from the Straits and Borneo, rose from 352,312 gallons to 1,250,115 gallons, which is still below the figures for 1905-06. Of this Bombay took 690,179 gallons, Madras 350,218 gallons, and Bengal 209,718 gallons.

In imports of **other mineral oils,** mainly for lubricating, there was a large increase of 31·6 per cent from 9,796,897 gallons in 1906-07 to 12,893,550 gallons in 1907-08, while the quantity drawn by India proper from Burma rose from 3,006,900 gallons to 4,051,400 gallons.

## VI.—RAW MATERIALS AND UNMANUFACTURED ARTICLES

**Coal**—A cogent illustration of India's industrial expansion is to be found in her increasing absorption of coal. While indigenous production has been rapidly progressing, export has declined, and yet the imports of foreign coal are yearly larger. In 1907-08 the measure of advance is 19·9 per cent in quantity and 22·1 per cent in value: the net increases being 51,145 tons and ₹10·75 lakhs (£71,600) respectively. The average value of all coal imported rose by 1·8 per cent.

The consignments from the United Kingdom in the year under review amounted to 215,100 tons, which are slightly below the figures for 1906-07 (222,100 tons) but greatly in excess of those for 1905-06 (137,000 tons), and this increase is probably attributable to the rise in price of Indian coal at a greater ratio than Welsh coal, accentuated by the abolition of the export duty by His Majesty's Government and a fall in freights between Cardiff and Bombay which has made the import of Welsh coal increasingly profitable. The figures

which are given below are taken from the Price Current of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce—to illustrate the comparative price per ton of Cardiff and Desharghur (Indian) coal at that port from 1906 onwards, and in the last column is worked out the proportion borne by the price of Cardiff coal to that of Indian coal, the latter being taken as 100 in each year. It will be seen that this proportion has tended steadily to diminish.

| | Indian | | | | | | Cardiff | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | a. | p. | £ | s. | d. | ₹ | a. | p. | £ | s. | d. | Proportion |
| 1906 | 13 | 0 | 0 | (0 | 17 | 4) | 18 | 12 | 0 | (1 | 5 | 0) | 144 |
| 1907 | 15 | 11 | 0 | (1 | 0 | 11) | 21 | 11 | 0 | (1 | 8 | 11) | 138 |
| 1908 | 16 | 6 | 0 | (1 | 1 | 10) | 22 | 3 | 0 | (1 | 9 | 7) | 135 |

The imports from Natal, owing chiefly to convenience of freight, increased from 75 to 35,349 tons and from Australia from 25,863 to 50,290 tons.

The imports of coal as Government stores amounted to 1,477 tons only against 5,083 tons in 1906-07 and 6,976 tons in 1905-06.

**Cotton**—After a year's decline the imports of **cotton** rose to 157,529 cwts, *i.e.*, increased by 41,331 cwts or 35·6 per cent. The value increased to ₹70,95,518 (£473,035) or by ₹25,06,551 (£167,103) or 54·6 per cent. The average value rose by 14 per cent. The imports are chiefly of long staple cotton and finer counts, and about 82 per cent of the total quantity imported is American, and of this 128,297 cwts were received *viâ* the United Kingdom, only 1,457 cwts being imported direct. From Persia 6,522 cwts were received as against 7,789 cwts in the previous year, and from Egypt 15,447 cwts as compared with 6,260 cwts in 1906-07.

**Precious Stones and Pearls, unset**—The figures as recorded in the trade accounts cannot be considered complete, as it is well known that large quantities of precious stones and of pearls in particular are imported and exported by post. Further, there are great fluctuations in recorded values. The imports of precious stones in 1907-08 were valued at ₹69·57 lakhs (£463,800), as compared with ₹93·38 lakhs (£622,500) in 1906-07, and ₹134·1 lakhs (£894,000) in 1905-06. The imports from Arabia, Bahrein Islands, and Aden, which consist chiefly of pearls, fell from ₹78·95 lakhs (£526,300) to ₹63·35 lakhs (£422,300), as was only to be expected, the market all over the world being very depressed. Of the precious stones found in India the ascertained productions of **rubies** in Burma amounted to 334,535 carats valued at ₹14·26 lakhs (£95,100), against 326,855 carats valued at ₹14·33 lakhs (£95,500) in 1906, shewing an increase of 2·3 per cent in quantity, but a fall of ·45 per cent in value and of 2·8 per cent in specific value. The manufacture of rubies by the action of radium upon corundum has not yet been advanced so far commercially as to affect the price of the natural stones, but the market like that for diamonds has been very dull since the American crisis. The value of **diamonds** obtained from the mines in Central India amounted to ₹41,772 (£2,785) only in 1907, against ₹77,400 (£5,160) in the preceding year.

**Silk**—An unusually large world's crop in 1907-08 scarcely sufficed to make good the deficiencies of stocks caused by the shortage of two preceding years, and until the financial depression in October reached the Continent, the demands of increasing consumption maintained prices at a satisfactory level. Then came a tremendous fall accentuated by bear speculations on the Yokohama exchange, but at the close of the year prospects were more favourable, as the accumulations of unsold silk had been considerably reduced and the financial outlook generally improved. India, however, benefited little from the fluctuations. Her imports of silk rose by 44·2 per cent in quantity from 1,422,467 lbs in 1906-07 to 2,050,839 lbs in 1907-08, and by 72·8 per cent in value from ₹56·8 lakhs

(£378,600) to R98·15 lakhs (£654,300) despite a rise in the specific value per unit of 19·8 per cent. Bombay's share amounted to R80·28 lakhs (£535,200) and that of Burma to R17·52 lakhs (£116,800). Direct imports from China increased from 1,049,567 lbs in 1906-07 to 1,733,323 lbs in 1907-08 or 65·2 per cent, and from the Straits Settlements fell from 220,118 lbs to 169,050 lbs or 23·2 per cent.

**Wood**—The imports by sea of unmanufactured wood (which includes timber, firewood, and ornamental wood) rose in the year under review to R82 lakhs (£546,700), the figures for 1906-07 being R80·92 lakhs (£539,400). The timber trade, if not so active as in 1905-06, when 109,421 cub. tons valued at R82·21 lakhs (£548,000) were imported, shews improvement on the figures for 1906-07, with 99,557 cub. tons and R80·25 lakhs (£535,000) against 94,721 cub. tons and R79·28 lakhs (£528,500). There was, however, a fall in the average value of 3·7 per cent. The value of **teak** imported represents 71·2 per cent of the whole. 58,095 cub. tons of teak were imported from Siam valued at R54·42 lakhs (£362,800) and from Java, the variety of which is known as *djatti*, 4,579 cub. tons valued at R3·72 lakhs (£24,800).

The trade in **timber other than teak** advanced from 33,025 cub. tons in 1906-07, valued at R18·56 lakhs (£123,700), to 36,611 cub. tons, valued at R21·84 lakhs (£145,600), representing a rise of 17·7 per cent in value and 6·2 per cent in average value. The imports from the United States shewed a recovery from 93 cub. tons valued at R2,372 (£158) to 5,817 cub. tons worth R2·81 lakhs (£18,700), but the figures are still considerably lower than those for 1905-06.

VII.—ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

**Cotton goods**—The imports of cotton goods into India shew a remarkable advance on any figures previously recorded, though they have not quite kept pace with the general expansion of trade, and the proportion borne by values to those of total imports has fallen from 38 to 37 per cent. The development is significant as an embargo on foreign cloth was the keynote of the boycott movement, and coming, as it does, after a year of decline seems to foreshadow its ultimate failure. In this connection the changes in marks and nomenclature adopted by many importers in deference to the new spirit were perhaps sufficient to satisfy where they did not deceive. The Lancashire textile industry was particularly active during the statistical year, and despite the rise in the prices of raw material, the market for yarns was exceedingly active and profitable, and the export trade to India in cotton textiles was less affected by the financial crisis and high Bank rate than that to the Continent and remained until the close of the year remarkably brisk. But on this side conditions were not altogether healthy, and the debauch in trading, particularly in Calcutta, was the less justifiable as famine conditions had declared themselves in the United Provinces, one of the most important up-country markets, the prices of food grains being abnormally high and the export trade, save in rice, practically stagnant. It is not surprising that there should have been during the last few months a concurrent fall in prices and accumulation of stocks, and even if the agricultural outlook improves, the outlook for 1908-09 is distinctly unpromising.

The figures of imports of cotton yarn and of woven and other cotton goods in the last twelve months (**stated in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling**) compared with those of the previous five years give no indication of this, more particularly when the increase in the coastwise shipments of piece goods manufactured in Bombay to other parts of India valued at R387·6 lakhs

(£2,584,000) as compared with ₹246·6 lakhs (£1,644,000) in 1906-07 is simultaneously considered.

| | Yarn | | Woven and other goods | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1902-03 | 2,29,76 | = 1,532 | 28,14,88 | = 18,766 | 30,44,64 | = 20,298 |
| 1903-04 | 2,14,21 | 1,428 | 28,86,85 | 19,246 | 31,01,06 | 20,674 |
| 1904-05 | 2,48,76 | 1,658 | 35,55,92 | 23,706 | 38,04,68 | 25,364 |
| 1905-06 | 3,42,54 | 2,283 | 39,01,77 | 26,012 | 42,44,31 | 28,295 |
| 1906-07 | 3,22,32 | 2,149 | 37,69,43 | 25,129 | 40,91,75 | 27,278 |
| 1907-08 | 3,69,32 | 2,462 | 44,34,93 | 29,566 | 48,04,25 | 32,028 |

The increase is therefore one of ₹712·5 lakhs (£4·75 millions) or 17·4 per cent.

In **Yarns** the decrease was one of 357,551 lbs or about 1 per cent in quantity, but the value increased by ₹47 lakhs (£313,000) or 14·5 per cent, the specific value having risen by about 15·7 per cent. The quantities imported in the last six years are here stated in **millions of lbs :—**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1902-03 | 33·68 | 1905-06 | 45·78 |
| 1903-04 | 28·01 | 1906-07 | 37·67 |
| 1904-05 | 30·58 | 1907-08 | 37·31 |

Yarns from the United Kingdom, which represent about 91 per cent of the whole, fell by 3·5 per cent from 35,207,000 lbs to 33,946,000 lbs, which, however, largely exceeds the imports in 1904-05. The value of twist and yarn, white, was ₹206·44 lakhs (£1,376,300) and of coloured ₹162·88 lakhs (£1,085,900). Of white (total imports being 20,828,111 lbs) 97 per cent was British, and of coloured (total imports being 16,487,626 lbs) 83·1 per cent came from the United Kingdom, 5·5 per cent from Italy, 4·2 per cent from Austria-Hungary, and 3·9 per cent from Belgium. The imports of 40 *s* mule receded in quantity from 9,675,000 lbs to 9,041,088 lbs but increased in value from ₹67·45 lakhs (£449,700) to ₹72·14 lakhs (£480,900).

It is of interest to compare the imports of coarse, medium, and fine yarns with the production of similar lines by mills in India, **the unit being 1,000 :—**

| | 1906-07 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Nos. 1 to 25**—Imported | 3,476 = | ·54 per cent | 2,539 = | ·42 per cent | 2,380 = | ·41 per cent |
| Indian | 634,688 | 99·46 | 603,096 | 99·58 | 579,309 | 99·59 |
| | 638,164 = | 88·15 | 605,635 = | 88 | 581,689 = | 86·58 |
| **Nos. 26 to 40**—Imported | 33,697 | 42·77 | 25,609 | 34·27 | 23,957 | 29·94 |
| Indian | 45,091 | 57·23 | 49,115 | 65·73 | 56,053 | 70·06 |
| | 78,788 = | 10·89 | 74,724 = | 10·86 | 80,010 = | 11·91 |
| **Above 40**—Imported | 5,822 | 83·64 | 6,461 | 81·97 | 7,470 | 73·4 |
| Indian | 1,139 | 16·36 | 1,421 | 18·03 | 2,707 | 26·6 |
| | 6,961 | ·96 | 7,882 = | 1·14 | 10,177 = | 1·51 |
| | 723,913 | 100 | 688,241 = | 100 | 671,876 = | 100 |

It will be seen that the proportions borne by the different groups to the total consumption remain remarkably constant, but the production of counts between 26*s* and 40*s* in Indian mills shows a disproportionate advance at the expense of foreign imports.

The imports of **cotton fabrics** represent 34·1 per cent of the total imports of private merchandise against 34·8 per cent in 1906-07. The value increased from ₹37,69,43,294 (£25,129,553) to ₹44,34,93,011 (£29,566,201) or by ₹6,65,49,717 (£4,436,648), the difference being equal to 17·6 per cent. In

ascertaining the changes of specific value calculations must be confined to **piece goods,** as some of the other descriptions are not stated in yards. Under this head imports amounted to 2,531,733,000 yards and ₹4,204·36 lakhs (£28,029,100) as against 2,318,200,000 yards and ₹3,564·43 lakhs (£23,762,900) in 1906-07. The increase is one of 213·53 million yards and ₹639·93 lakhs (£4,266,200), which marks an increase of 9·2 per cent in quantity and 17·9 per cent in value with a rise of 7·8 per cent in specific value. These ratios of course vary but little in respect of different subheads. For example, the average value of grey goods rose by 7 per cent, that of white goods by 8·05 per cent, and that of coloured goods by 8·8 per cent.

The following statement shows in **millions of yards** the relative importance of these three classes in the course of the last nineteen years. It will be noticed that, whereas the figures for grey goods show a marked decline in the last two years, they exceed considerably those for 1904-05 :—

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured, printed or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average 1889-90 to 1893-94 | 1,223·47 | 368·63 | 374·17 | 62 |
| „ 1894-95 „ 1898-99 | 1,209·77 | 418·59 | 351·49 | 61 |
| „ 1899-1900 „ 1903-04 | 1,204·53 | 369·69 | 430·57 | 57 |
| 1904-05 | 1,210·16 | 584·3 | 493·92 | 53 |
| 1905-06 | 1,348·84 | 572·75 | 541·65 | 55 |
| 1906-07 | 1,298·48 | 494·97 | 524·75 | 56 |
| 1907-08 | 1,253·79 | 733·53 | 544·41 | 49·5 |

The decline in greys was one of 3·4 per cent, while bleached goods increased by 48·2 per cent and coloured goods by 3·7 per cent. Bengal, where there are but two weaving mills, took 939,738,000 yards or 74·9 per cent of the total of imported grey goods as against 900,552,000 yards or 69 per cent in 1906-07.

The extent to which the cotton piece goods of the three main classes are derived from the United Kingdom is illustrated below in **millions of yards** from the figures of the last three years :—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom |
| Unbleached goods | 1,348·84 | 1,337·01 | 1,298·48 | 1,289·34 | 1,253·79 | 1,247·38 |
| Bleached „ . | 572·75 | 561·85 | 494·97 | 486·32 | 733·53 | 721·99 |
| Coloured „ . | 541·65 | 516·32 | 524·75 | 500·44 | 544·41 | 517 8 |

Britain therefore supplies 99·5 per cent of the grey goods, 98·4 per cent of the bleached goods, and 95·1 per cent of the coloured goods. The two former mark a fractional advance and the latter an equally fractional decline.

Besides these there are certain subsidiary classes of goods imported, the principal descriptions of which and the values of the respective trades **in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling** being :—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece . . . | 34,96 = 233 | | 36,22 = 241·5 | | 40,59 = 270·6 | |
| Hosiery . . . . | 63,02 | 420·1 | 56,13 | 374·2 | 67,27 | 448·5 |
| Sewing thread . . . | 25,61 | 170·7 | 26,41 | 176·1 | 28,46 | 189·7 |
| Other manufactures . . | 82,82 | 552·1 | 86,23 | 574·9 | 94,24 | 628·3 |

The trade therefore increased by ₹25·57 lakhs (£170,400) or by 12·5 per cent as compared with a net loss of ₹1·42 lakh (£9,500) in the previous year. The United Kingdom supplies 81·9 per cent of **handkerchiefs and shawls**

and 86·9 per cent of **sewing thread.** But in the **hosiery** trade nothing is so remarkable as the steady advance of Japan, which during the last six years has raised its proportionate share by direct shipment from 3·4 per cent to 57 per cent, representing an increase of values from R1,09,380 (£7,292) in 1902-03 to R38,39,240 (£255,949) in 1907-08. It may also be surmised that the R2·78 lakhs (£18,500) of hosiery credited in the accounts to Hongkong and the Straits Settlements was largely, if not wholly, Japanese in origin.

**Silk Goods**—There was a very appreciable increase after two lean years in the imports of silk goods. The total value was R213·48 lakhs (£1,423,000) against R182·5 lakhs (£1,216,000) in 1906-07, a difference of nearly R31 lakhs (£207,000), being a percentage increase of 17. **Silk piece goods** continue to represent about two-thirds of the total, the figures being R142·18 lakhs (£947,900), and the shipments of Japan, which rose from R59·19 lakhs (£394,600) in 1905-06 to R72·29 lakhs (£481,900) in 1906-07, increased by R13·95 lakhs (£93,000) to R86·24 lakhs (£574,900). The imports from China rose from R33·4 lakhs (£222,700) to R42·45 lakhs (£283,000), and the Far East is altogether responsible for 91 per cent of the total. Goods manufactured of **silk mixed** with other materials rose from R30·78 lakhs (£205,200) to R47·94 lakhs (£319,600) or by 55·7 per cent. **Silk yarn, noils, and warp** amounted to R22·7 lakhs (£151,300), and **other sorts** including thread for sewing to R65,776 (£4,385).

**Woollen goods**—The year opened with great activity in the British woollen trade, despite high prices for raw material, and when the Continental and American demand slackened, manufacturers were fortunate in finding abundant orders from India for the cheaper lines, which explains the large expansion in imports recorded. Sales, however, have been latterly affected by famine conditions, and the proportion of unsold stocks at the end of the year was considerable. The total value increased from R205·22 lakhs (£1,368,100) to R276·76 lakhs (£1,845,100) or over 34·8 per cent. Of the total increase of R71·54 lakhs (£477,000), **piecegoods** accounted for R53·25 lakhs (£355,000), and the quantities (19,681,000 yards), which had receded in 1906-07 to 15,323,000 yards, were almost up to the level of 1905-06, *viz.*, 19,981,000 yards. In specific value the increase was 7·6 per cent. The share of the United Kingdom rose from R103·31 lakhs (£688,700) to R143·45 lakhs (£956,300), and of Germany from R26·76 lakhs (£178,400) to R32·26 lakhs (£215,000), representing respectively 74·4 and 16·7 per cent of the trade. Of the total increase in wool manufactures there was an extraordinary rise in the value of **shawls** from R15·89 lakhs (£105,900) to R34·15 lakhs (£227,600), and the number of shawls imported was 1,203,372 against 790,118 in 1906-07, the percentage increase in specific value being 41·3. The tendency in the face of higher prices to import a lower class of goods seems to have been corrected. Germany supplied 88 per cent of the total number by continued assiduous study of native requirements. Woollen **hosiery** increased from 287,544 lbs and R8·05 lakhs (£53,700) to 387,778 lbs and R10·01 lakhs (£66,700), of which the United Kingdom supplied over 360,000 lbs. In **yarn** there was a marked decline from 979,024 lbs to 781,854 lbs, but Germany maintained her preponderance in this market. Under values the fall was from R20·83 lakhs (£139,000) to R17·29 lakhs (£115,300).

The increase under **knitting wool** shews that the knitting industry is making some headway all over the country, and it may be inferred from the figures for **carpets and rugs** that English manufacturers are successfully imitating the

characteristics of the Oriental product at rates which enable them to find a growing market even in India.

The values for the past three years under the different classes are as follows, **the unit being 1,000 :—**

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Piece-goods | 1,68,46= | 1,123 | 1,39,52= | 930 | 1,92,78= | 1,285 |
| Shawls | 27,61 | 184 | 15,89 | 106 | 34,14 | 228 |
| Yarn and knitting wool | 9,99 | 66 | 20,83 | 139 | 17,29 | 115 |
| Carpets and rugs | 14,47 | 96 | 10,57 | 70 | 12,27 | 82 |
| Hosiery | 9,05 | 60 | 8,06 | 54 | 10,01 | 67 |
| Braids | 3,21 | 21 | 3,06 | 20 | 3,13 | 21 |
| Other sorts | 9,73 | 65 | 7.28 | 48 | 7,13 | 47 |

**Other manufactured goods**—Of other manufactured goods the following are the most important:—

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | Increase (+) or decrease (—) per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| Apparel, including boots and shoes | 2,11,23,407 = | 1,408,227 | 2,58,30,052 = | 1,722,003 | +22·3 |
| Arms and ammunition | 28,80,639 | 192,043 | 48,72,970 | 324,865 | +69·2 |
| Books and printed matter | 30,40,205 | 202,680 | 33,13,548 | 220,903 | +9 |
| Building materials | 49,83,290 | 332,219 | 52,58,135 | 350,542 | +5·5 |
| Carriages and carts | 92,46,548 | 616,437 | 1,17,99,707 | 786,647 | +27·6 |
| Clocks and watches | 18,43,194 | 122,880 | 20,01,548 | 133,436 | +8·6 |
| Earthenware and porcelain | 38,99,824 | 259,988 | 42,22,143 | 281,476 | +8·3 |
| Glass and glassware | 1,21,14,108 | 807,607 | 1,44,51,774 | 963,452 | +19·3 |
| Instruments and apparatus— | | | | | |
| Electrical | 55,77,877 | 371,858 | 49,07.850 | 327,190 | —12 |
| Musical | 20,21,671 | 134,778 | 44,06,557 | 293,770 | +118 |
| Scientific | 28,81,219 | 192,081 | 27,85,975 | 185,732 | —3·3 |
| Jewellery and gold and silver plate | 18,47,229 | 123,149 | 16,61,590 | 110,773 | —10 |
| Leather and manufactures of leather | 32,58,681 | 217,245 | 38,33,389 | 255,559 | +17·6 |
| Matches | 63,12,731 | 420,849 | 73,76,836 | 491,789 | +16·8 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 56,74,656 | 378,310 | 62,37,084 | 415,806 | +9·9 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 80,11,105 | 534,074 | 99,24,262 | 661,617 | +23·9 |
| Ships, parts of | 4,39,244 | 29,283 | 29,87,054 | 199,137 | +580·1 |
| Soap | 32,28,156 | 215,210 | 41,72,147 | 278,143 | +29·2 |
| Stationery | 40,40,347 | 269,356 | 44,38,065 | 295,871 | +9·8 |
| Tea chests | 23,57,108 | 157,141 | 26,94,372 | 179,625 | +14·3 |
| Toys and requisites for games | 28,61,703 | 190,780 | 35,04,505 | 233,634 | +22·4 |
| Umbrellas | 18,85,939 | 125,729 | 19,96,769 | 133,118 | +5·8 |
| Umbrella fittings | 23,63,688 | 157,579 | 25,90,873 | 172,725 | +9·6 |

The largest item, **Apparel**, shewed an increase of ₹47·06 lakhs (£313,700) or 22·3 per cent, but **Carriages and Carts**, which includes motor cars and motor cycles, shewed a greater proportionate expansion of ₹25·53 lakhs (£170,200)or

27·6 per cent. The values of **motor cars and motor cycle** imported into India during the last three years were:—

| | ₹ | | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . | 35,22,452 | = | 234,830 |
| 1906-07 . . | 44,67,586 | | 297,839 |
| 1907-08 . . | 63,44,337 | | 422,956 |

while the growing use of the cycle by the natives of India is illustrated by the expanding values of imports exceeding those of the previous year by ₹2·04 lakhs (£13,600) or 10·2 per cent. Mechanically propelled vehicles now represent 72·5 per cent of the total under this head. India is no nearer the solution of the manufacture of **Glass and Glassware** on a big commercial scale, and the imports increased by ₹23·37 lakhs (£155,800) or 19·3 per cent, an item under this head which shews a marked expansion (₹12·89 lakhs=£85,900) being **glass bangles,** with which Austria-Hungary is capturing the internal markets, particularly in Southern India. The imports of **soap** have increased in value from ₹26·56 lakhs (£177,000) in 1903-04 to ₹41·72 lakhs (£278,000) in 1907-08, or by 57 per cent.

The import trade in **Paper and pasteboard,** which has a non-progressive indigenous output to contend with, advanced by ₹19·13 lakhs (£127,500), of which printing paper accounts for nearly ₹8 lakhs (£53,300) and other kinds of paper for ₹5·66 lakhs (£37,700). **Stationery** similarly increased to the extent of ₹3·98 lakhs (£26,500), and **Books and Printed Matter** (chiefly educational) by ₹2·73 lakhs (£18,200). **Earthenware and Porcelain** advanced by ₹3·22 lakhs (£21,500) and **Paints and colours** by ₹5·62 lakhs (£37,500).

The import trade in **Matches** continues to expand as the manufacture in India has scarcely got beyond the cottage industry stage. Sweden participated largely in the increase, her imports rising by 57·6 per cent from ₹12·5 lakhs (£83,000) to ₹19·76 lakhs (£131,700), while the imports from Japan decreased by 14·2 per cent from ₹14·5 lakhs (£96,700) to ₹12·45 lakhs (£83,000). The imports of **Umbrella fittings** increased by 9·6 per cent, and of **Umbrellas** by 5·8 per cent. Under the head of **parts of ships** Bengal accounts for a rise from ₹1·68 lakh (£11,200) to ₹20·52 lakhs (£136,800) and Burma from ₹2·04 lakhs (£13,600) to ₹7·7 lakhs (£51,300) due to increased activity in the Calcutta and Rangoon ship-building yards. **Musical Instruments** increased from ₹20·22 lakhs (£134,800) to ₹44·06 lakhs (£293,700) or 117·9 per cent, due chiefly to larger importations of the gramophone class which, now that vernacular records are available, are becoming increasingly popular, particularly in Bengal.

The increase in the arrival of **tea chests** amounting to 14·3 per cent must be attributed to the increasing preference shewn for patented and other foreign boxes in preference to the locally made article, for the shipments of leaf were smaller than in the previous year. The expansion under **Toys** amounted to 22·4 per cent.

**Government Stores**—The imports of Government stores remain to be separately considered, though with unimportant exceptions they constitute actual commercial transactions. They amounted to ₹ 664·22 lakhs (£4,428,100) as compared with ₹893·46 lakhs (£5,956,400) and ₹902·97 lakhs (£6,019,800) in the two preceding years. The share of the United Kingdom was represented by ₹615·17 lakhs (£4,101,100) or 92·6 per cent of the total.

## RE-EXPORTS

The value of re-exports *by sea* in 1907-08 represented 2·1 per cent of the otal exports of merchandise and 2·9 per cent of the total imports from which they

were derived as compared with averages for the previous triennium of 2·1 and 3·4 per cent.

The following statement records the extent of the trade in the last five years:—

| | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 | 3,32,61,864 = | 2,217,458 |
| 1904-05 | 3,37,30,729 | 2,248,715 |
| 1905-06 | 3,52,88,109 | 2,352,540 |
| 1906-07 | 3,48,40,390 | 2,322,693 |
| 1907-08 | 3,76,64 189 | 2,510,946 |

The re-exports to Western Countries are comparatively small, but the 84·86 lakhs (£566,000) taken by the United Kingdom represents 22·5 per cent of the total. The chief commodity is **raw wool** from Afghanistan and Tibet, re-exported from Karachi, which advanced from 5,221,000 lbs worth ₹29·59 lakhs (£197,000) to 5,263,000 lbs worth ₹32·76 lakhs (£218,000).

The chief ports of Western India command nearly 90 per cent of the re-export trade, the share of Bombay alone being 77 per cent, and it consists chiefly in manufactures for which India is an entrepôt for Persia, Arabia, Turkey in Asia, Ceylon, China, and British East Africa. **Cotton goods** representing 39·4 per cent of the total (piece goods 35·3 per cent) and **apparel** 5 per cent shew an increase over the previous year's figures, while there is a decline under **metals** (30·3 per cent), **sugar** (31 per cent), and **oils** (33·8 per cent).

The re-exports of **foreign tea** advanced from 501,577 lbs to 991,305 lbs or by 97·6 per cent, Russia taking 35,860 lbs and Turkey in Asia 323,526 lbs more than in the previous year. Persia's purchases totalled 350,000 lbs against 207,000 lbs in 1906-07. The re-exports of **foreign green tea** increased from 26,000 lbs to 55,000 lbs.

## EXPORTS OF INDIAN MERCHANDISE.

The exports of Indian merchandise represent nearly 98 per cent of the total exports and 56·5 per cent of the total trade in merchandise. The total value of the exports of Indian merchandise in 1907-08 was ₹173·42 crores (115·61 millions sterling) as against ₹173·08 crores (115·4 millions sterling) in the previous year. The increase was thus one of ·2 per cent as compared with an increase of 20 per cent in the value of imported merchandise. The following statement shows the progress made in the past 26 years:—

| | ₹ | £ | Variation, taking 1882-83 as 100 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1882-83 | 80,59,81,554 = | 65,486,001 | 100 |
| Average 1883-84 to 1887-88 | 83,48,25,352 | 63,560,702 | 104 |
| „ 1888-89 to 1892-93 | 98,62,85,039 | 67,954,523 | 122 |
| „ 1893-94 to 1897-98 | 101,79,71,169 | 60,210,012 | 126 |
| „ 1898-99 to 1902-03 | 113,25,58,571 | 75,503,905 | 140 |
| 1903-04 | 149,63,33,958 | 99,755,597 | 186 |
| 1904-05 | 154,14,12,715 | 102,760,848 | 191 |
| 1905-06 | 158,18,92,231 | 105,459,482 | 196 |
| 1906-07 | 173,08,20,132 | 115,388,009 | 215 |
| 1907-08 | 173,42,12,335 | 115,614,156 | 215 |
| Average 1903-04 to 1907-08 | 161,69,34,274 | 107,795,618 | 201 |

The average of the last five years corresponds very closely with the ratio of advance under imports.

The following table which, indirectly, has some bearing upon the balance of trade illustrates to what a remarkable extent the conditions operating

adversely to the export of merchandise impressed themselves upon statistics which as a rule are slow to demonstrate the effects of sudden vicissitudes. The export trade in merchandise increased during the first six months at a phenomenal rate, to be followed in the last six months by a no less phenomenal decline, while the exceptional volume of export of treasure representing chiefly the drain of gold continued until the very close of the statistical year.

| | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | Increase (+) or decrease (—) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| 1st quarter | Merchandise | 40,99,58,466 | 27,330,564 | 49,50,53,954 | 33,003,597 | +20·8 |
| | Treasure | 2,19,31,055 | 1,462,070 | 77,87,830 | 519,189 | —64·5 |
| 2nd quarter | Merchandise | 36,33,42,405 | 24,222,827 | 46,27,65,690 | 30,851,046 | +27·4 |
| | Treasure | 1,49,26,109 | 995,074 | 1,80,03,908 | 1,200,260 | +20·6 |
| | First six months: Merchandise | | | | | +23·9 |
| | First six months: Treasure | | | | | —30 |

| | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| 3rd quarter | Merchandise | 46,44,12,738 | 30,960,849 | 39,62,79,273 | 26,418,618 | —14·7 |
| | Treasure | 1,27,17,223 | 847,815 | 1,73,24,890 | 1,154,993 | +36·2 |
| 4th quarter | Merchandise | 52,79,46,913 | 35,196,461 | 41,77,77,607 | 27,851,841 | —20·9 |
| | Treasure | 75,55,689 | 503,713 | 1,13,45,653 | 756,377 | +50·2 |
| | Last six months: Merchandise | | | | | —18 |
| | Last six months: Treasure | | | | | +41·4 |

The **principal articles in the export trade** are enumerated in the appended list with their values for three years :—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1 Cotton | 21,34,15,195= | 14,227,680 | 21,97,84,609= | 14,652,307 | 25,70,25,196= | 17,135,013 |
| 2 Rice | 18,63,99,831 | 12,426,655 | 18,52,95,036 | 12,353,006 | 20,33,91,044 | 13,559,403 |
| 3 Jute manufactures | 12,44,79,844 | 8,298,656 | 15,71,62,303 | 10,477,487 | 18,29,76,445 | 12,198,430 |
| 4 Jute | 17,12,56,641 | 11,417,109 | 26,83,85,810 | 17,892,454 | 17,97,28,013 | 11,981,868 |
| 5 Seeds | 10,60,92,267 | 7,072,818 | 13,02,17,294 | 8,681,153 | 16,81,51,631 | 11,210,109 |
| 6 Hides and Skins | 13,75,71,140 | 9,171,409 | 15,34,52,508 | 10,230,167 | 10,95,15,341 | 7,301,023 |
| 7 Cotton-yarn and cloth | 14,42,54,998 | 9,617,000 | 12,16,82,407 | 8,112,160 | 10,76,66,003 | 7,177,734 |
| 8 Tea | 8,84,76,037 | 5,898,402 | 9,85,77,642 | 6,571,843 | 10,30,03,486 | 6,866,899 |
| 9 Wheat and wheat flour | 9,17,27,260 | 6,115,151 | 7,84,01,766 | 5,226,784 | 9,14,55,603 | 6,097,040 |
| 10 Opium | 9,47,17,667 | 6,314,511 | 9,30,79,224 | 6,205,282 | 8,67,24,782 | 5,781,652 |
| 11 Lac | 3,18,01,161 | 2,120,077 | 3,49,97,740 | 2,333,183 | 4,08,30,591 | 2,722,039 |
| 12 Wool | 2,11,47,283 | 1,409,819 | 2,42,65,349 | 1,617,690 | 2,10,34,534 | 1,402,302 |
| 13 Pulse, millets, and cereals | 1,71,25,240 | 1,141,683 | 1,28,56,345 | 857,090 | 2,02,40,624 | 1,349,375 |
| 14 Coffee | 1,75,67,240 | 1,171,149 | 99,64,778 | 664,319 | 1,11,45,202 | 743,013 |
| 15 Oils | 81,68,253 | 544,550 | 69,85,964 | 465,731 | 85,81,745 | 572,116 |
| 16 Wood and timber | 89,60,168 | 597,345 | 83,17,484 | 554,499 | 82,68,637 | 551,242 |
| 17 Provisions | 71,07,230 | 473,815 | 65,11,115 | 434,074 | 75,45,590 | 503,039 |
| 18 Silk | 56,39,679 | 375,979 | 68,65,018 | 457,668 | 63,78,154 | 425,210 |
| 19 Indigo | 58,63,777 | 390,918 | 70,04,773 | 466,985 | 63,72,734 | 424,849 |
| 20 Spices | 90,78,656 | 605,244 | 60,20,378 | 401,359 | 52,69,743 | 351,316 |

The statement below shows for three years the value (**in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling**) of the trade in each of the seven classes under which articles are grouped in the accounts :

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| I Animals living | 19,34 = | 129 | 22,63 = | 151 | 21,59 = | 144 |
| II Articles of food and drink | 42,32,52 | 28,217 | 40,23,64 | 26,824 | 44,67,51 | 29,783 |
| III Metals and manufactures of metals | 58,26 | 388 | 97,55 | 650 | 1,10,65 | 738 |
| IV Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials | 11,44,84 | 7,632 | 11,55,74 | 7,705 | 11,03,78 | 7,359 |
| V Oils | 81,68 | 545 | 69,86 | 466 | 85,82 | 572 |
| VI Raw materials and unmanufactured articles | 67,14,53 | 44,764 | 81,53,23 | 54,355 | 76,22,97 | 50,820 |
| VII Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 35,67,75 | 23,785 | 37,85,54 | 25,237 | 39,29,81 | 26,199 |

## I.—ANIMALS, LIVING

This is a small and unimportant class and is chiefly made up of shipments of cattle from Southern India to Ceylon and the Straits.

## II.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

**Articles of food and drink**—In this class there was a net increase of R4·44 crores (£2,960,000), the total value being R44·67 crores (£29,780,000) as against R40·24 crores (£26,830,000) in 1906-07, and this despite the fact that the wheat crop of 1906-07 was 0·9 per cent below that of 1905-06, though 10·8 per cent above the average of the preceding five years.

**Coffee**—The statistical year closes before the coffee season in Southern India is completed, but the results so far as known are more hopeful than for some time past, as after a year of lean crop the yields of estates were generally good, and despite a decline in average quality prices realised for shipments were considerably higher than in 1906-07. The Brazilian coffee crop of 1907-08 was short and the prospects of the current season are uncertain, so that, despite the practical failure of the San Paolo valorization scheme, a hardening of prices seems more probable than a decline.

The figures of export, quantities and values, for the last five years are as follows:—

| | Cwts | R | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 . . | 291,254 | 1,36,73,773 | = 911,585 |
| 1904-05 . . | 329,647 | 1,66,09,757 | 1,107,317 |
| 1905-06 . . | 360,182 | 1,75,67,240 | 1,171,149 |
| 1906-07 . . | 228,094 | 99,64,778 | 664,319 |
| 1907-08 . . | 244,234 | 1,11,45,202 | 743,013 |

The increase is 7·1 per cent in quantity and 11·8 per cent in value. The value per cwt, R45-10-1 (£3-0-10), has improved by 4·4 per cent in one year. The exports, however, are still much below the figures for 1905-06 and 1904-05.

The shipments of coffee to the United Kingdom rose by 49·8 per cent to 123,418 cwts and represent 50·5 per cent of the total exports. This may be in part accounted for by increased consumption in the United States of America for which the United Kingdom acts as a distributing agent. France took 75,817 cwts or 31 per cent of the total exports as against 95,493 cwts or 41·9 per cent of the total in 1906-07, chiefly native-cured or of the cheaper qualities.

**Fruits and vegetables**—The value of **fruits and vegetables** exported during the year was R38·24 lakhs (£255,000) as against R34·57 lakhs (£230,000) in 1906-07. The principal article included in this head is **copra**, which is the dried kernel of the cocoanut, and is chiefly exported from the Madras Presidency to Germany, Belgium, and France, the quantity and value being 119,829 cwts and R21·58 lakhs (£144,000) respectively. The former marks a decline of over 5 per cent, but the latter rose by nearly 14 per cent, as the declared value increased from R15 to R18 per cwt, due to short supplies and increased foreign demand for copra rather than oil. **Fresh vegetables**, chiefly **potatoes and onions**, are also an important item, the value being R16·1 lakhs (£107,000) as against R15·18 lakhs (£101,200) in 1906-07. They are mostly exported to Ceylon and the Straits.

**Rice**—Exports of rice in 1907-08 represented 64·5 per cent of the total value of food-grains exported from India, against 67 per cent in the previous year,

and 11·7 per cent of the value of all Indian produce exported as compared with 10·7 per cent in 1906-07.

The chief feature of the Indian rice trade in the year under review was the continued shortage of crops in Bengal (a province responsible in a season of good rainfall for more than a third of the total outturn) chiefly due to an adverse season but also in part to a contraction of acreage, in consequence of the temptation offered by the high price of jute in the sowing season to grow that crop in preference. To meet this deficiency which was accentuated by more general demand for rice in preference to coarser food-grains, there were very heavy coastwise imports from Burma, particularly to Calcutta, and a rise in price which though particularly marked in the two jute growing provinces was general all over India. Despite, however, the diminution in foreign exports from Calcutta, the total for the whole of India fell very little below the previous year's figures, Madras making good the shortage in shipments to Ceylon, and Burma more than maintaining the volume of her foreign export after meeting all the requirements of the two Bengals.

The following statement shows **in thousands of tons** and **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling** the foreign exports of rice during each of the last five years. The rise in average declared value was equivalent to 11·1 per cent. In the same quinquennium the quantities and values in the same denomination of exports coastwise from Burma have been as follows :—

| | Quantity | Value | | From Burma | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | ₹ | £ | Tons | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 . . | 2,250 | 19,08,28 = | 12,722 | 195 | 1,33,74 = | 892 |
| 1904-05 . . | 2,474 | 19,61,90 | 13,079 | 301 | 2,05,14 | 1,368 |
| 1905-06 . . | 2,152 | 18,63,69 | 12,425 | 460 | 3,47,40 | 2,316 |
| 1906-07 . . | 1,935 | 18,52,51 | 12,350 | 813 | 7,22,84 | 4,819 |
| 1907-08 . . | 1,913 | 20,33,63 | 13,558 | 979 | 9,62,10 | 6,414 |

The exports to foreign countries fell short by 1·1 per cent in quantity, but rose by 9·8 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being 11·1 per cent. As regards the shipments of rice from Burma to India proper, the total of 979,000 tons marks an advance of 166,000 tons upon the phenomenal figures of the previous year, and is greater by 113 per cent than the figures for 1905-06. This is only in part accounted for by the failure of the crops in the Gangetic delta, and illustrates the intensification of internal demand originating in the growth of a higher standard of comfort among the cultivators who had profited from the boom in jute. The average price of rice both in Rangoon and Calcutta advanced by 15 per cent.

The provincial distribution of coastwise exports from Burma during the last three years has been as follows, **in thousands of tons** :—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | Percentage | Tons | Percentage | Tons | Percentage |
| Bengal . . . | 14 | 3 | 276 | 33·9 | 431 | 44 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam . . . | 27 | 5·8 | 239 | 29·3 | 142 | 14·5 |
| Bombay . . . | 225 | 49 | 115 | 14·1 | 206 | 21 |
| Madras . . . | 172 | 37·4 | 173 | 21·3 | 174 | 17·8 |
| Indian Ports, not British | 22 | 4·8 | 11 | 1·4 | 26 | 2·7 |
| TOTAL . | 460 | 100 | 814 | 100 | 979 | 100 |

The distribution of India's foreign export of **rice not in the husk** during the past three years is given below, quantities and values being stated **in thousands of tons,** and **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling,** respectively :—

| | 1905-06 | | | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | ₹ | £ | Tons | ₹ | £ | Tons | ₹ | £ |
| Europe— | | | | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 174 | 1,48,95 | =993 | 132 | 1,25,43 | =836 | 153 | 1,67,40 | =1,116 |
| Austria-Hungary | 122 | 87,56 | 584 | 158 | 1,20,95 | 806 | 170 | 1,52,07 | 1,014 |
| Germany | 248 | 1,97,42 | 1,316 | 333 | 2,85,25 | 1,902 | 309 | 3,07,01 | 2,047 |
| Holland | 126 | 89,01 | 593 | 187 | 1,32,63 | 884 | 186 | 1,64,59 | 1,097 |
| Other countries | 71 | 51,38 | 342 | 68 | 54,36 | 362 | 90 | 83,18 | 554 |
| TOTAL | 741 | 5,74,32 | 3,828 | 878 | 7,18,62 | 4,790 | 908 | 8,74,25 | 5,828 |
| Asia— | | | | | | | | | |
| Aden and Arabia | 68 | 77,03 | 514 | 52 | 69,34 | 462 | 27 | 37,94 | 253 |
| Ceylon | 299 | 3,21,24 | 2,142 | 306 | 3,80,36 | 2,536 | 256 | 3,29,31 | 2,195 |
| Japan | 330 | 2,73,83 | 1,825 | 133 | 1,20,65 | 804 | 125 | 1,29,37 | 863 |
| Java | 95 | 75,24 | 501 | 19 | 17,80 | 119 | 64 | 66,47 | 443 |
| Straits | 251 | 2,05,89 | 1,372 | 203 | 1,88,31 | 1,255 | 224 | 2,29,60 | 1,531 |
| Other countries | 52 | 49,14 | 328 | 43 | 43,98 | 293 | 62 | 74,29 | 445 |
| TOTAL | 1,095 | 10,02,37 | 66,82 | 756 | 8,20,44 | 5,469 | 758 | 8,66,98 | 5,780 |
| Africa— | | | | | | | | | |
| Egypt | 66 | 53,47 | 357 | 83 | 79,08 | 527 | 59 | 66,26 | 442 |
| Mauritius and Reunion. | 68 | 74,08 | 494 | 63 | 78,15 | 521 | 52 | 68,81 | 459 |
| East Africa | 48 | 46,75 | 311 | 44 | 50,13 | 334 | 43 | 55,09 | 367 |
| Cape Colony and Natal | 28 | 32,81 | 219 | 29 | 38,48 | 257 | 25 | 39,52 | 263 |
| Other countries | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 210 | 2,07,11 | 1,381 | 219 | 2,45,84 | 1,639 | 179 | 2,29,90 | 1,533 |
| America | 54 | 48,74 | 325 | 34 | 33,70 | 225 | 32 | 36,64 | 244 |
| Australia | 11 | 8,52 | 57 | 15 | 13,91 | 93 | 8 | 7,23 | 48 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 2,111 | 18,41,06 | 12,273 | 1,902 | 18,32,51 | 12,216 | 1,885 | 20,15,00 | 13,433 |

The quantity taken by the United Kingdom showed an increase of 21,000 tons, and by Austria-Hungary 12,000 tons. The exports to Germany declined by 24,000 tons. Those to Egypt also fell short of the figures of 1906-07 by 24,000 tons and to Aden and Arabia by 25,000 tons. Ceylon took 50,000 tons less than in 1906-07, but Java showed a great advance as compared with 1906-07, though the total was less than in 1905-06 by 31,000 tons. The Straits also took 21,000 tons more than in the previous year.

In the above table the quantities of rice shipped to Egypt "for orders" have been adjusted and credited to the country of final destination.

The exports of **unhusked rice** or paddy declined from 32,757 tons with a value of ₹19·99 lakhs (£133,000) to 27,658 tons, value ₹18·62 lakhs (£124,000), of which Ceylon took no less than 27,453 tons

There was a nominal quantity of 3,472 cwts of **rice flour** valued at ₹27,575 (£1,838) exported during the year. The previous year's figures were 6,165 cwts, value ₹44,484 (£2,965).

**Wheat**—On the average of the last five years the value of the wheat exported represents 32·9 per cent of the exports of all food grains, and 6·6 per cent of the total value of Indian merchandise exported. The wheat exports of the statistical year are mainly drawn from the crop of the previous year, and the

figures for 1907-08 represent chiefly the exportable surplus of the harvest of 1906-07 which, though estimated to be somewhat smaller in volume than that of 1905-06, was 10 per cent greater than the average for the quinquennium ending 1904-05.

The following table shews the outturn in tons and exports, quantities and values, for the past five years :—

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Outturn . Tons | 7,971,446 | 9,641,145 | 7,582,040 | 8,579,140 | 8,491,700 |
| Exports quantity . ,, | 1,295,565 | 2,150,025 | 937,523 | 801,445 | 880,459 |
| Value . ₹ | 11,08,89,546 | 17,90,60,692 | 8,53,43,996 | 7,25,44,650 | 8,58,50,350 |
| Value . £ | 7,392,636 | 11,937,379 | 5,689,599 | 4,836,310 | 5,723,357 |
| Percentage of exports to outturn | 16·2 | 22·3 | 12·4 | 9·3 | 10·7 |

India, however, contributes but a small proportion of the world's supply of wheat as the following figures will shew. The crop in the principal wheat-growing countries in 1907 has been estimated as follows :—

| | Tons | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| *Europe*— | | |
| Russia | 13,610,000 | 16·1 |
| France | 9,860,000 | 11·6 |
| Italy | 4,930,000 | 5·8 |
| United Kingdom | 1,500,000 | 1·8 |
| Other countries | 15,790,000 | 18·6 |
| TOTAL | 45,690,000 | 53·9 |
| *Asia*— | | |
| India | 8,360,000 | 9·9 |
| Other countries | 3,210,000 | 3·8 |
| TOTAL | 11,570,000 | 13·7 |
| *America*— | | |
| United States | 16,930,000 | 20 |
| Argentine | 4,710,000 | 5·6 |
| Other countries | 2,820,000 | 3·3 |
| TOTAL | 24,460,000 | 28·9 |
| *Africa* (Algeria, Tunis, Egypt, Cape Colony) | 1,460,000 | 1·7 |
| *Australia* | 1,500,000 | 1·8 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 84,680,000 | 100 |

The export trade during the year under review was decidedly brisk. The improvement in the quality of grain shipped in consequence of the new contract reducing the proportion of dirt and foreign matter has perhaps influenced prices less than had been expected, but the general shortage of crops all over the world except in the Argentine and Australia has greatly improved demand, and it is unfortunate, in view of the higher rates likely to continue for some time to come, that the last wheat harvest (1907-08) was so poor, owing to the failure of the rains. The advance in the specific value of wheat exported from India amounts to 7·7 per cent. The distribution of exports was practically confined to three ports, Karachi, Bombay and Calcutta, and of these the first with a virtual monopoly of the Panjab wheat harvest accounts for no less than 96 per cent. Complaints continue to be made from there both of delays in moving the crop by rail to the port and of insufficient storage accommodation at the port itself, but measures for improving the situation have been discussed

by the Railway Board with the local Chamber of Commerce, and in this connection the investigation of the adaptability of the elevator system to India has once more been undertaken.

The following table shews the principal customers for Indian wheat during the past three years (in tons) :—

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . | 709,168 | 730,526 | 771,525 |
| Belgium . . . | 56,532 | 39,539 | 70,432 |
| France . . . | 92,749 | 9,706 | 15,909 |
| Spain . . . . | 44,266 | 2,369 | ... |

The imports of wheat into India are inconsiderable and come almost entirely from Asiatic Turkey and Persia—their contributions in 1907-08 being 8,293 and 1,364 tons, respectively, to a total of 12,783 tons.

The exports of **wheat flour** generally bear a close relation to those of wheat, but the figures for the year under review shew a further decline of 9 per cent in quantity and 4·3 per cent in value on those of the previous twelve months. The export trade in flour is confined to the East, chiefly with Aden, Asiatic Turkey, East Africa, Ceylon, and the Straits Settlements, and the fall is more than accounted for by restricted shipments from Bombay to Arabia. The total shipments were 37,219 tons valued at R56·05 lakhs (£374,000) as compared with 40,923 tons valued at R58·57 lakhs (£390,500) in 1906-07. The rise in specific value was one of 5·2 per cent.

The **food grains other than rice and wheat** exported in 1907-08 increased by 53·1 per cent or 1,702,818 cwts, but the figures are still much below those for 1904-05. The most striking increase was that of **barley**, which rose by 1,231,678 cwts or 303 per cent to 1,637,745 cwts. The bulk of this goes to the United Kingdom (963,205 cwts), Germany (438,613 cwts), and Belgium (208,088 cwts). **Jawar and bajra** increased by 345,811 cwts or 44·3 per cent to 1,125,993 cwts. **Pulse**, which contracted by 48·6 per cent to 1,097,945 cwts. in the previous year, rose by 92,486 cwts or 8·4 per cent to 1,190,431 cwts. **Other sorts**, including **maize**, also increased by 25,553 cwts or 33·3 per cent to 102,297 cwts, and **gram** rose by 7,290 cwts or ·9 per cent to 853,873 cwts.

**Provisions**—The value of provisions exported increased by 15·9 per cent to R75·45 lakhs (£503,000). The principal articles in the class are **ghi** (clarified butter) and **fish**, the former rising by 13 per cent to R26·74 lakhs (£178,000) and the latter by 17·3 per cent to R18·33 lakhs (£122,000).

The declared values of **ghi** per cwt during the last five years have been :—

| | R |
|---|---|
| 1903-04 . . . . | 47·6 |
| 1904-05 . . . . | 49 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 50·7 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 54·2 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 60·6 |

and it is believed that the retail prices up country show an equally proportionate advance. The price in fact tends to become so prohibitive for the poorer classes as to afford reasonable hopes of introducing with success a cheap vegetable substitute, such as can be made from refined cotton-seed and cocoanut oils, of which abundant supplies are available in India.

**Spices**—Exports of spices declined by 802,982 lbs or 3 per cent in quantity and by R7·51 lakhs (£50,000) or 12·4 per cent in value, which is lower than in any of the five previous years. The decline under **Pepper** amounting to R8·63

lakhs (£57,500) or 26·1 per cent is due to bad prices in Europe, rather than short stocks.

The exports of **ginger** increased to R11·1 lakhs (£74,000) accompanied by a rise in specific value owing to shrinkage in the world's supply. The exports of **chillies**, on the other hand, advanced by 6·3 per cent in quantity but declined by 4·9 per cent in value, the totals being 11,705,000 lbs and R13·67 lakhs (£91,000) respectively.

**Tea**—The Indian Tea trade has enjoyed another prosperous year. The world's consumption has apparently caught up supply, and every thing points to its increasing in the future at a corresponding ratio. The only disquieting features of the year's trading were the temporary inflation of values for lower grades of leaf, which have appreciated by 70 per cent since 1906, at the expense of the better teas, and complaints of a general decline in quality, but the principal excuse for coarse plucking has been removed now that the market seems to have recovered its sense of proportion. In any event India could not hope to have benefited long by the extravagant rates for her poorer stuff, for they would have provoked the competition of the cheaper China teas, and encouraged increased cultivation in Java.

The advance in consumption which followed the reduction of the import duty in the United Kingdom to 5*d* per lb has been maintained. Internal absorption is increasing, and tea shops are now a common feature of many bazaars, particularly in Southern India, but it is in the expansion of the Continental markets that the prospects of the Indian industry centre, and of these the Russian market in particular is shewing remarkable development. The following table illustrates in the last three calendar years, compared with the year 1890, the astonishing growth in absorption of teas from India and Ceylon on the Continent :—

| | lbs |
|---|---|
| 1890 . . . | 14,001,824 |
| 1905 . . . | 129,884,250 |
| 1906 . . . | 162,461,824 |
| 1907 (estimated) . | 171,500,000 |

The Russian market is of particular interest and importance. Its development dates from the discovery that Indian dust gives a greater strength to 'tablet' tea than Chinese. Indian tea reaches Russia not only by direct shipment, but also across the land frontier of India and by re-export from the United Kingdom, Germany, and China. It has been estimated that Russia in the nine months ending September 30th, 1907, absorbed 30,542,081 lbs of Indian and Ceylon teas as compared with 24,566,329 lbs for the same nine months of the previous year. These figures exclude imports of brick tea from China, in which Indian dust has been blended, estimated at 8,000,000 lbs in 1907 or proportionately 6,000,000 lbs for the period January—September. India is encouraged to direct importation into Russia by the preferential duty on her tea and that of Ceylon carried by the Trans-Siberian Railway, and it is announced in this connection that a double service of steamers will be established next season between Calcutta and Vladivostok to save transhipment at Colombo. The duty on tea in Germany was reduced in 1906 to 1½*d* per lb, and this, aided by a vigorous medical campaign against beer and coffee, is likely to encourage imports. Holland and Belgium are two other promising markets.

As regards the competition with Ceylon, it remains to be seen how far the introduction of rubber there will ultimately affect production, for the cultivation

tends to oust tea from lower levels where the yield is generally greater than at higher altitudes.

The results of improved prospects in the tea trade are illustrated by the appreciation of shares in the market. Mr. George Seton has calculated that the shares of 170 tea companies registered in London have enhanced in value from £14,400,000 to £21,600,000 or by no less than 50 per cent between January 1905 and November 1907. China supplied half the requirements of the United Kingdom twenty years ago: in 1907 the proportion had been reduced to 6 per cent and is only sustained at that level by the competitive price for lower grades of Indian and Ceylon teas. The imports of tea into the United Kingdom in 1907 were as follows:—

| | 1906 | | 1907 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Million lbs | Per cent | Million lbs | Per cent |
| India . . | 183·8 | 57·2 | 171·4 | 54 |
| Ceylon . . | 106·3 | 33·1 | 107·5 | 33·9 |
| China . . | 13·2 | 4·1 | 18·8 | 5·9 |
| Java . . | 12·6 | 3·9 | 9·1 | 2·9 |

The consumption per capita in the United Kingdom in 1907 was 6·19 lbs as compared with 6·13 lbs in the previous year.

The following figures shew the quantity and value of tea exported from India in the last five years:—

| | Quantity | Value | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 . . | 207,159,793 | 8,55,79,327 | = 5,705,288 |
| 1904-05 . . | 211,887,158 | 8,46,54,867 | 5,643,658 |
| 1905-06 . . | 214,223,788 | 8,84,76,037 | 5,898,402 |
| 1906-07 . . | 233,653,637 | 9,85,77,642 | 6,571,843 |
| 1907-08 . . | 227,021,657 | 10,30,03,486 | 6,866,899 |

The figures for 1906-07 represented a record both in quantity and value, but the progress in quantity was not maintained in 1907-08, when it declined by 6·63 million lbs or 2·8 per cent, though the rise in value was of ₹44·26 lakhs (£295,000) or 4·5 per cent, the increase in specific value being one of about 7·6 per cent.

The quantities of tea exported to the principal countries in the last three years have been as follows **(in thousands of lbs)**:—

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . | 166,591 | 176,170 | 169,325 |
| Canada . . . . | 15,019 | 14,515 | 4,731 |
| Russia . . . . | 9,988 | 13,761 | 15,407 |
| Australia . . | 7,729 | 9,499 | 11,090 |
| Turkey in Asia . . . | 3,543 | 3,101 | 3,504 |
| Ceylon . . . . | 2,101 | 4,818 | 8,881 |
| China . . . . | 3,076 | 4,820 | 7,502 |
| Persia . . . . | 1,102 | 929 | 1,578 |
| United States . . . | 2,175 | 1,739 | 2,086 |
| Other countries . . | 2,900 | 4,302 | 2,919 |

Though the figures for the United Kingdom tend proportionately to reduce, as direct shipments take the place of consignments to London on optional bills of lading, her share of the total exports stands at 74·6 per cent. The expansion in the Ceylon and China figures is due to Russian requirements, and the heavy decline in direct shipments to Canada should not be regarded as an index

of a contracting market. Russia and Australia have made marked advances. The figures to Australia were swelled by a replacement of the shipment of 750,000 lbs lost by fire on the S.S. "Fortunatus."

Another feature of the year's trade which should be noticed is the increase in the volume of sales by auction in Calcutta in preference to Mincing Lane, and London has further suffered as the emporium of imports into the United Kingdom by the competition of lower freights with Glasgow and Liverpool. About 73,200,000 lbs were auctioned in Calcutta during the past season, of which only about 20,000,000 lbs went to London, and of the balance Russia (direct and through China and Ceylon) absorbed 27¾ millions and Australia 10¾ millions. The prices realised in Calcutta have shewn a greater advance on those of the previous year than those in London, and several of the London Assam Companies have found it profitable to auction their lower grades of tea here rather at home.

Prices at auction in Calcutta

| | Broken Pekoe | | Pekoe | | Pekoe Souchong, Souchong, Pekoe fannings and Congou | | Net Average price | Variation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Price | Variation | Price | Variation | Price | Variation | | |
| | *a. p.* | | *a. p.* | | *a. p.* | | *a. p.* | |
| 1904-05 . . | 5 10 | 100 | 5 4 | 100 | 4 6 | 100 | 5 4 | 100 |
| 1905-06 . . | 6 3 | 107 | 5 2 | 97 | 4 2 | 93 | 5 4 | 100 |
| 1906-07 . . | 6 8 | 114 | 5 7 | 105 | 4 7 | 102 | 5 5 | 102 |
| 1907-08 . . | 7 2 | 123 | 6 10 | 128 | 6 2 | 137 | 6 8 | 125 |

The average price realised in 1907-08 in London was 8·21 per lb, as compared with 8·11*d* per lb in 1906-07.

In spite of the efforts of the Indian Tea Association, estimates of production continue under suspicion of great inaccuracy, and for this the planters must be held chiefly to blame. The crop in 1907 was generally considered to be better than that of the previous year, except in Bengal. The table below gives approximate figures of the area, production, and land exports during the last five years, and the actual figures of exports by sea during the same period.

| | Area | Production | Exports (lbs) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | acres | lbs | By land | By sea |
| 1903 . . | 526,611 | 209,041,888 | 679,616 | 204,123,723 |
| 1904 . . | 524,472 | 221,565,631 | 744,352 | 211,395,940 |
| 1905 . . | 528,004 | 221,712,407 | 760,256 | 210,798,056 |
| 1906 . . | 529,246 | 241,403,510 | 942,256 | 235,815,697 |
| 1907 . . | 536,652 | 248,020,398 | 865,648 | 235,422,376 |

The export trade is practically confined to three ports, Calcutta shipping 73·9 per cent, Chittagong 18·9 per cent (almost entirely to the United Kingdom), and Madras 6·2 per cent. Five years ago Calcutta claimed 83 per cent of the total.

The **coast shipments** were in the last two years:—

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|
| | lbs | lbs |
| From Bengal . . . . | 3,298,495 | 3,380,385 |
| „ Eastern Bengal and Assam | 1,185,327 | 854,117 |

The recorded **exports of green tea** by sea and by land during the last three years were :—

| | lbs |
|---|---|
| 1905-06 | 2,183,940 |
| 1906-07 | 2,034,384 |
| 1907-08 | 1,806,031 |

A customs duty, known as the **Tea Cess**, at the rate of a quarter of a pie per pound, has been levied since the 1st April 1903 on all Indian tea exported. The collections realised are paid to a Committee constituted to receive and expend the proceeds of this cess on measures for promoting the sale and consumption of Indian tea. The collections since the institution of the cess have been as follows:—

| | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 | 2,86,915 | = 19,128 |
| 1904-05 | 3,04,317 | 20,288 |
| 1905-06 | 3,20,353 | 21,357 |
| 1906-07 | 3,17,554 | 21,170 |
| 1907-08 | 3,02,833 | 20,189 |

## III.—METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS

On the average of the last three years the exports of Indian metals and manufactures have represented no more than ·64 per cent of the total exports of Indian merchandise.

In 1907-08 the total exports of **Metals** rose from 10,063,446 cwts to 11,337,384 cwts or 12·7 per cent in quantity and from ₹91·86 lakhs (£612,000) to ₹105·68 lakhs (£704,500) or 15 per cent in value. But if illustration were needed of the unreliability of declared values, it may be found in the case of **Manganese ore** representing 81·3 per cent of the increased total value (as against 77·2 per cent in 1906-07), which has a value of as. 12-6 per cwt as against as. 11-6 in the previous year, and **Copper and brass** (wrought) representing 5·7 per cent of the total value as against 8 per cent in 1906-07, which has a value of ₹79-6-5 per cwt against ₹59-13-7 per cwt in 1906-07, though the prices in both cases have fallen steadily during the last six months. Over 90 per cent of the world's supply of manganese is absorbed by the iron and steel industries, and prices dropped in consequence of enormously reduced consumption. Another disquieting feature of the Indian market is that the situation in Russia has so far improved that the restriction of her output is not likely to continue indefinitely, but it is hoped the decline of prices will hasten the general introduction of reducing plant in the chief producing centres to save the enormous cost of freight, and compel less wasteful methods of extracting ore than prevailed during the boom.

Under "other sorts" are comprised mainly :

| | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Copper, old | 3,644 | 2,48,418 | = 16,561 |
| Chromite | 157,020 | 3,54,194 | 23,613 |
| Iron, cast (pig) | 130,645 | 3,77,181 | 25,145 |
| „ old | 49,772 | 81,176 | 5,412 |
| „ wrought | 11,710 | 1,17,782 | 7,852 |
| Lead | 1,730 | 25,127 | 1,675 |
| Tin ore and unwrought | 3,337 | 48,124 | 3,208 |
| Unenumerated metals | 1,576 | 1,11,336 | 7,422 |

## IV.—CHEMICALS, DRUGS, NARCOTICS, AND DYES

**Saltpetre** and borax represent the bulk of the exports of chemicals from India. The quantity of saltpetre exported increased from 353,378 cwts to 363,954 cwts, while the value rose from ₹41·42 lakhs (£276,000) to ₹41·84 lakhs (£279,000). The quantitative expansion of 3 per cent in conjunction with 1 per cent rise in value means a decline of 1·7 per cent in specific value.

**Borax** was exported to the extent of 5,247 cwts with a value of ₹1·08 lakh (£7,200), its average value having risen by ·5 per cent. The chief source of supply is Tibet.

The exports of **Chinchona bark** amounted to 473,200 lbs valued at ₹1·08 lakh (£7,200) as compared with 494,587 lbs valued at ₹1·19 lakhs (£7,900) in 1906-07. The fall in specific value is due to competitive Java shipments glutting the home markets.

**Opium**—As the result of negotiations with China the Government of India have agreed to restrict the export of opium from this country to 61,900 chests during the calendar year 1908, and to effect further reductions of 5,100 chests in each of the two following years, while the question of making still further reductions after the year 1910 will depend on whether China has, in the interval, effected a proportional reduction in her own production and consumption of opium. The ancillary proposal to increase the Chinese import duty, which at present stands at 110 taels per picul (*2s 9d* per lb), has been postponed for the present, as the objections entertained to that course are felt to require further consideration, but it has had no doubt an adverse effect on prices, which might otherwise have been expected to rise in response to reduced production.

In pursuance of this agreement with China the area under poppy cultivation in the Bihar and Benares Agencies has already been reduced from 845,000 bighas to 800,000 bighas. The number of chests of Bengal opium offered for sale in 1907 was 50,400 as compared with 52,800 in 1906, and the number has been further reduced to 3,900 per mensem until December next and to 3,600 for the first three months of 1909, and the number of chests of Malwa opium which may be exported from Bombay has been limited to a maximum of 15,100 during the present calendar year, and further reductions will probably be effected in 1909 and 1910.

The quantities of all opium exported from Bengal and Bombay respectively during the last five years with value **in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling** and the average prices by chest are as follows :—

| | Exports | | | | | *Average price per chest* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal chests | Bombay chests | Total chests | Value ₹ | Value £ | Bengal ₹ | Bengal £ | Bombay ₹ | Bombay £ |
| 1903-04 . | 48,218 | 25,419 | 73,637 | 10,47,02 = | 6,980 | 1,460 = | 97 | 1,349 = | 90 |
| 1904-05 . | 47,855 | 19,006 | 66,861 | 10,62,34 | 7,082 | 1,585 | 106 | 1,599 | 107 |
| 1905-06 . | 48,833 | 14,103 | 62,936 | 9,47,18 | 6,315 | 1,438 | 96 | 1,736 | 116 |
| 1906-07 . | 53,588 | 12,686 | 66,274 | 9,30,79 | 6,205 | 1,381 | 92 | 1,501 | 100 |
| 1907-08 . | 47,440 | 16,320 | 63,760 | 8,67,25 | 5,782 | 1,347 | 90 | 1,399 | 93 |

In Bombay, the port of shipment for Malwa opium, there was a rise of 3,634 chests or 28·6 per cent in quantity and a loss of 6·8 per cent in average value, but the exports from Bengal declined by 6,148 chests or 11·5 per cent in quantity with a loss of 2·5 per cent in average value. The total quantity showed a net decline of 2,514 chests or 3·8 per cent in quantity, and a decrease of 6·8 per cent in total value. The average price of the Calcutta sales was ₹1,348 for the twelve months ending March 1908, the highest obtained being ₹1,456 in April 1907. There was some change in the volume of distribution. While exports

to Hongkong fell by 5,401 chests to 34,643 chests, shipments to the Straits rose by 242 chests to 13,195 chests, and to the Treaty Ports of China by 2,560 chests to 13,106 chests.

**Tobacco**—Undoubtedly tobacco smoking is becoming increasingly popular in India, and despite American competition as a grower and importer of manufactured tobacco, the internal market for Trichinopoly and Burma cheroots continues firm, while the exports, despite rumours to the contrary, shew a steady increase. Cigarette manufacture has been stimulated by the success of the American invasion, and experiments are being made in different parts of the country with special varieties of Havana and Virginian tobaccos.

The following are the figures of the trade for the last three years :—

| | Unmanufactured | | | Manufactured | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | cwts | ₹ | £ | cwts | ₹ | £ |
| 1905-06 . . . | 116,886 | 14,07,241 = | 93,816 | 10,543 | 9,33,196 = | 62,213 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 187,007 | 20,49,623 | 136,642 | 12,280 | 10,46,355 | 69,757 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 176,110 | 18,07,563 | 120,504 | 12,807 | 11,24,228 | 74,949 |

In unmanufactured description, therefore, the exports in 1907-08 declined by 5·8 per cent in quantity and 11·8 per cent in value, and the specific value declined by 6·3 per cent to ₹10-4-2 (13 *s.* 8$\frac{1}{6}$*d*) per cwt, owing to the increasing demand for lower grades of leaf in the Straits Settlements. In the manufactured classes, however, the rise in specific value is 3 per cent and there was a satisfactory increase of 4·3 per cent in the quantity shipped. The largest quantities of Indian cigars are taken by the Straits Settlements, the United Kingdom, and Siam.

**Indigo**—The improved prospects of 1906-07 have scarcely been maintained in 1907-08, though the Java-Natal variety seems to have come to stay and the season in Bihar was on the whole favourable to the crop. Prices on the other hand have shown great steadiness and a revival of interest is considered more probable than a further decline. It is a significant fact that natural indigo continues to meet a ready sale at prices fully 25 per cent higher than 3 years ago, without any corresponding advance in the price of the synthetic substitute. The following statement shows the average prices of indigo per cwt during 1906 and 1907 :—

| | In India (Calcutta) | | | | | | In London | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | *a.* | *p.* | £ | *s.* | *d.* | £ | *s.* | *d.* |
| 1906 . . . | 228 | 5 | 4 = | 15 | 6 | 1 | 19 | 19 | 0 |
| 1907 . . . | 255 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 16 | 8 |

The statement of exports given below has no very encouraging features, though the demand from the United Kingdom was greater and also from Persia into some provinces of which the importation of the synthetic dye seems still to be regarded as interdicted. Persia, however, is an indigo-growing country and this market is likely to be only temporary.

The following statement shows the exports of indigo in 1907-08 and the four previous years. The total, twelve years ago, was 169,500 cwts with a value of ₹4·37 crores (£2·91 millions) and that was about 19 per cent below the value for the previous year :—

| | From Calcutta | From Madras ports | From other ports | Total | Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 . . . | 29,858 | 24,414 | 6,138 | 60,410 | 1,07,62,000 = | 717,000 |
| 1904-05 . . . | 30,029 | 11,901 | 7,322 | 49,252 | 83,46,000 | 556,000 |
| 1905-06 . . . | 19,062 | 7,756 | 4,368 | 31,186 | 58,64,000 | 391,000 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 19,309 | 11,159 | 4,634 | 35,102 | 70,05,000 | 467,000 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 16,627 | 10,619 | 5,244 | 32,490 | 63,73,000 | 425,000 |

In five years there has been a decline of over 46 per cent in quantity and 40·8 per cent in value. In 1906-07 there was a small recovery, but in 1907-08 a decline of 7·4 per cent in quantity and 9 per cent in value with a fall of 1·7 per cent in specific value, the average declared value being R196-2-5 (£13 1s. 7d.) per cwt.

The exports to the United Kingdom improved by some 16·9 per cent to 9,285 cwts, but there was a further marked fall in the exports to Egypt, which had hitherto held the first place, from 9,195 to 6,424 cwts. The Continent of Europe increased its demand from 7,063 to 8,083 cwts, but that of Japan declined from 1,600 to 343 cwts or by 78 per cent. Persia took 2,988 cwts instead of 2,422 cwts, but Asiatic Turkey dropped from 3,453 to 3,235 cwts.

There was in the year a decrease of some 12 per cent in the area placed under the crop. The largest contraction occurred in Madras (34 per cent), where the holdings are small and scattered, and is ascribed to lack of timely rainfall and the increased competition of the synthetic dye. As compared with the average of the five years ending 1905-06, the overall shortage in the four reporting provinces—Bengal, Madras, the United Provinces, and the Panjab—is one of 39 per cent. The total yield in these four provinces was estimated in December 1907 at 51,400 cwts, which was not up to expectation owing to insufficient rainfall. The corresponding estimate in December 1906 was of 69,700 cwts.

**Other Dyeing and Tanning Materials**—The following statement shows the exports of the principal articles in this class in the last three years :—

| | 1905-06 | | | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ |
| Myrabolams . | 1,206,398 | 44,61,000 | =297,000 | 1,162,219 | 43,97,000 | =293,000 | 1,493,294 | 5,895 000 | =393,000 |
| Cutch . . | 55,070 | 8,64,000 | 58,000 | 97,269 | 15,93,000 | 106,000 | 91,690 | 14,48,000 | 96,000 |
| Turmeric . . | 49,545 | 4,42,000 | 29,000 | 62,246 | 7,09,000 | 47,000 | 82,844 | 9,91,000 | 66,000 |

The exports of **myrabolams** increased by 28·5 per cent in quantity, by 34·1 per cent in value, and by 4·5 per cent in specific value. The extraction of tannic acid on a commercial scale has not so far proved successful in India. **Cutch** scarcely maintained the advance in quantity of the previous year, and there was a decline in specific value of 3·5 per cent. The exports of **Turmeric** represented a quantitative improvement of 33·1 per cent and a gain of nearly 40 per cent in value. The chief customers are the United Kingdom (15·5 per cent of the total exports), Germany (14·5 per cent), Turkey in Asia (9·3 per cent), and Aden (9·6 per cent).

**Oils.**—The total values under this head increased by 22·8 per cent from R69·86 lakhs (£466,000) in 1906-07 to R85·82 lakhs (£572,000) in the current statistical year.

Under **animal oils** (chiefly fish oil) there was a remarkable rise from 28,481 gallons, valued at R23,171 (£1,545), to 205,723 gallons, valued at R1,05,169 (£7,011).

Under **essential oils,** lemon grass oil from the Madras Presidency is the principal description exported, the figures being 16,195 gallons, value R3,86,453= £25,764 in 1907-08, against 12,814 gallons, value R4,86,150=£32,410 in 1906-07. The market is very limited, and the increase in supply was enough to account for the fall in specific value from R38 (£2-10-8) to R24 (£1-12-0) per gallon.

**Mineral oils** marked a remarkable advance owing to the expansion of the exports of petroleum from Burma, chiefly to the United Kingdom (1,759,269 gallons), Holland (?,871,505 gallons), and Ceylon (8,108 gallons).

The total under this head increased by 524 per cent in quantity to 5,652,850 gallons and in value by 133 per cent to R5·37 lakhs (£36,000), and this was done without contraction of supply to the Indian market, for the coastwise exports from Burma to ports in India proper increased from 55,796,000 gallons to 67,910,000 gallons during the year under review. The average declared value of mineral oils including kerosene per gallon on export declined from 4 annas (4*d*) to 1 anna 6 pies (1½*d*), and it may be of interest to compare this price with that of the vegetable illuminants most commonly used by the people, though these have a somewhat longer burning capacity per unit.

| | Per Gallon | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *R* | *a.* | *p.* | *s.* | *d.* |
| Castor oil . . . . . | 1 | 7 | 9 | (1 | 11¾) |
| Cocoanut oil . . . . . | 1 | 7 | 6 | (1 | 11½) |
| Mustard oil . . . . . | 1 | 15 | 6 | (2 | 7½) |

Exports of **paraffin wax,** which is classed as oil, increased by 45·4 per cent to 87,564 cwts valued at R19·7 lakhs (£131,000), while the shipment of **candles** made from petroleum rose by 7·6 per cent to 5,482,000 lbs valued at R15·48 lakhs (£103,000).

The exports of **vegetable oils** show a marked decline for the third year in succession, while the export of oil seeds continues to increase, and under this head industrial apathy seems to intensify rather than diminish.

There is a slight recovery under **cocoanut oil** with a total value of R17·17 lakhs (£114,000) as compared with R14·18 lakhs (£95,000) in 1906-07, but the bulk of it is crudely extracted in wooden country mills. The markets are chiefly Singapore and Ceylon. The value of **castor oil** exported shews a slight advance from R22·22 to R22·37 lakhs (£148,000 to £149,000), but that of **linseed** declined by R1·3 lakh (£9,000) or nearly 60 per cent. For **mustard and sesamum oil,** etc, the total values recorded are R2·22 lakhs (£15,000) in advance of those for 1906-07.

**Coal**—The export trade in coal has never been very enterprising or very active, and in 1907-08 the exports of coal represented ·77 per cent of the exports of raw materials and ·34 per cent of the exports of Indian merchandise, the average for the three years ending 1906-07 being ·91 per cent and ·38 per cent, respectively. The quantity exported in 1907-08 was 727,881 tons as compared with 935,350 tons in 1906-07, a decrease of 22·2 per cent. There was a corresponding fall in value from R74·80 lakhs (£499,000) to R58·96 lakhs (£393,000) or 21·2 per cent. The decline in exports is not attributable to decreased activity in production, for the total output in 1907 was 11,147,339 tons against 9,783,250 tons in 1906, an increase of 1,364,089 tons and the largest output on record. The explanation is to be found in the growing volume of demand for industrial purposes, and the increasing preference for coal rather than wood fuel shewn by Indian Railways, which has enlarged the total requirements for home consumption, while Japan, the war with Russia over, has already succeeded to a large extent in recovering her position in the Singapore and Chinese markets, which India held on sufferance in the interim.

The following table shews the supply of coal retained for internal consumption exclusive of previous stocks in the ports of Calcutta and Bombay and in each province during 1907:—

| | Production Tons | Imports (by sea, rail and river) Tons | Exports (by sea, rail and river) Tons | Balance for internal consumption Tons |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Calcutta . . | ... | 5,070,267 | 3,871,550* | 1,198,717 |
| Bengal (excluding Calcutta) . . | 9,993,348 | 12,402 | 6,829,345 | 3,176,405 |
| Bombay . . | ... | 1,219,359 | 226,703 | 992,656 |
| Bombay (excluding Bombay Port) . | ... | 503,468 | 2,638 | 500,830 |
| Sind and British Baluchistan . | 42,488 | 441,855 | 263,590 | 220,753 |
| Madras . . | ... | 602,493 | 186,727 | 415,766 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam . | 295,795 | 224,375 | 4,309 | 515,861 |
| United Provinces of Agra and Oudh . . | ... | 675.117 | 2,770 | 672,347 |
| Panjab . . | 60,749 | 475,672 | 530 | 535,891 |
| Central Provinces and Berar . | 134,088 | 229,237 | 14,294 | 349,031 |
| Rajputana and Central India . | 206,650 | 320,281 | 32,778 | 494,153 |
| Nizam's Territory | 414,221 | 2,304 | 204,819 | 211,706 |
| Mysore . . | ... | 102,492 | 4 | 102,488 |
| Burma . . | ... | 366,942 | 310 | 366,632 |
| TOTAL . | 11,147,339 | 10,246,264 | 11,640,367 | 9,753,236 |

Fifty three per cent of coal exported (384,938 tons) was declared for Ceylon, and exports to the Straits Settlements (28 per cent) declined from 293,788 tons to 203,419 tons, but Sumatra took larger quantities and is now India's third best customer with 101,651 tons (14 per cent). Calcutta was the port of shipment for practically the whole of the exports. Shipments of bunker coal from Calcutta for use in steamers rose from 896,488 tons to 1,003,821 tons in 1907-08, but shipments coastwise to other Indian ports amounted to 2,205,532 tons—a decrease of 2 per cent on the figures for 1906-07, chiefly due to reduced consignments to Bombay.

The price of first class Jherria Bengal coal per ton f. o. r. was—

| | Lowest | | | | | Highest | | | | | Average | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | a. | p. | s. | d. | ₹ | a. | p. | s. | d. | ₹ | a. | p. | s. | d. |
| 1905-06 . | 2 | 4 | 0 | (3 | 0) | 3 | 12 | 0 | (5 | 0) | 2 | 10 | 6 | (3 | 6½) |
| 1906-07 . | 3 | 8 | 0 | (4 | 8) | 6 | 0 | 0 | (8 | 0) | 4 | 5 | 5 | (5 | 9 5/12) |
| 1907-08 . | 5 | 0 | 0 | (6 | 8) | 6 | 8 | 0 | (8 | 8) | 6 | 0 | 0 | (8 | 0) |

* Includes Bunker coal, 1,003,821 tons

**Cotton**—The exports of raw cotton represent 33·7 per cent of the whole value of Indian raw materials exported. The extent of the trade primarily depends of course upon the exportable surplus which in turn depends upon the general harvest in India, but the relation of textile activity in Europe and the United States to the supplies available in America and Egypt is a secondary factor of scarcely less importance. In all these respects the season of 1907-08 was very favourable, as the textile industry all over the world was unusually active, and the crop of 1906-07 which mainly furnished the exports under review was a good one. It was estimated at $22\frac{1}{3}$ million acres with a yield of some 4,932,700 bales of 400 lbs ( 17,616,786 cwts) as against 21 million acres in 1905-06 with an outturn of 3,044,000 bales (10,871,428 cwts). This increase in area and yield was due to a favourable season, but the average yield per acre works out at only 88 lbs of cleaned cotton which is less than half the estimated average per acre in America.

The American crop in the last three years has been estimated as follows by the Census Bureau (in cwts) :—

| 1905 | 1906 | 1907 |
|---|---|---|
| 48,234,625 | 60,694,187 | 50,783,308 |

While the Egyptian crop handled in 1907 is reported to have been one of 6,900,000 cantars or 6,099,100 cwts.

The following are the contrasted prices of middling upland cotton at Liverpool and good Broach cotton at Bombay in the last two years in pence and decimals of a penny per lb :—

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|
| In Liverpool— | | |
| Opening | 6·1 | 5·9 |
| Highest | 6·59 | 7·57 |
| Lowest | 5·29 | 5·66 |
| Closing | 5·97 | 5·69 |
| Average | 5·95 | 6·62 |
| At Bombay— | | |
| Opening | 5·31 | 5·14 |
| Highest | 5·37 | 5·59 |
| Lowest | 4·8 | 5·04 |
| Closing | 5·14 | 5·14 |
| Average | 5·06 | 5·37 |

Prices, it will be seen, were on the whole somewhat higher than in 1906-07.

The net imports into the United Kingdom in 1907 exceeded those of 1906 by some 2,632,000 cwts or 16·7 per cent. This activity, however, did not extend to India, for the mill consumption in 1907-08 declined again by nearly 163,800 cwts or 2·4 per cent from 6,945,600 cwts to 6,781,800 cwts. This figure allows for wastage in manufacture and is equivalent to 1,838,900 bales of 400 lbs each which, were there no imports of foreign cotton, would absorb 38·2 per cent of the total Indian crop (1906).

The table given below shows a progressive increase in exports of Indian cotton during the last three years, both in quantity and value :—

| | Exports | Value | | Average declared value per cwt |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | ₹ a £ s. d. |
| 1905-06 . . | 7,399,000 | 21,34,15,000 | =14,228,000 | 28 13½ = 1 18 5½ |
| 1906-07 . . | 7,401,000 | 21,97,85,000 | 14,652,000 | 29 11⅙ 1 19 7⅛ |
| 1907-08 . . | 8,562,000 | 25,70,25,000 | 17,135,000 | 30 0⅜ 2 0 0⅜ |

In the year under review there was an increase of 15·7 per cent in quantity and 16·9 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being 1·1 per cent.

The exports from different provinces were :—

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts |
| Bengal . . . . | 499,000 | 574,000 | 354,000 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam . | ... | ... | 1,000 |
| Bombay . . . . | 5,290,000 | 5,242,000 | 5,922,000 |
| Sind . . . . | 712,000 | 798,000 | 1,127,000 |
| Madras . . . . | 800,000 | 680,000 | 1,052,000 |
| Burma . . . | 98,000 | 107,000 | 106,000 |
| Total . | 7,399,000 | 7,401,000 | 8,562,000 |

The statement below shows the destinations of cotton during the same period :—

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts |
| Japan . . . . | 2,231,000 | 1,729,000 | 2,245,000 |
| Germany . . . | 1,384,000 | 1,663,000 | 1,880,000 |
| Belgium . . . | 1,128,000 | 1,102,000 | 1,254,000 |
| Italy . . . . | 809,000 | 874,000 | 1,060,000 |
| Austria-Hungary . . | 615,000 | 619,000 | 622,000 |
| France . . . | 482,000 | 560,000 | 625,000 |
| United Kingdom . . | 373,000 | 452,000 | 453,000 |
| Spain . . . | 140,000 | 139,000 | 157,000 |
| China . . . | 185,000 | 166,000 | 135,000 |

It will be remarked that the bulk of the shipments goes to the Continent and the Far East, and Lancashire depends to an insignificant extent upon Indian cotton. The imports into Japan rose by 29·8 per cent, practically a return to the figures of 1905-06. Germany's purchases increased by 13 per cent, and those of Italy and Belgium by 21·3 per cent and 13·8 per cent respectively. The figures for Austria-Hungary and the United Kingdom are practically the same. In 1907-08 France took 65,000 cwts and Spain 18,000 cwts more, but China took 31,000 cwts less, than in 1906-07.

**Hides and Skins, raw**—The exports of raw hides and skins represent approximately 4 per cent of the entire exports of Indian produce. Taken together the number exported amounted to 25·5 millions, valued at ₹705·18 lakhs (£4,701,000), as compared with 39·8 millions valued at ₹1089·4 lakhs (£7,263,000) in the previous year.

The following statement of the exports for the last five years shows the fluctuations in the trade, **the unit being 1,000**:—

| | Hides | | | Skins | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | ₹ | £ | No. | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 | 8,261 | 3,16,75= | 2,112 | 19,634 | 2,66,87= | 1,779 |
| 1904-05 | 8,722 | 3,70,87 | 2,472 | 22,889 | 3,34,54 | 2,230 |
| 1905-06 | 11,532 | 5,23,38 | 3,489 | 31,521 | 4,86,49 | 3,243 |
| 1906-07 | 12,917 | 6,40,90 | 4,273 | 26,866 | 4,48,49 | 2,990 |
| 1907-08 | 8,276 | 4,31,98 | 2,880 | 17,202 | 2,73,20 | 1,821 |

The exports of **raw hides** declined by 35·9 per cent in quantity and 32·6 per cent in value: the average declared value per cwt rising by 8·2 per cent to ₹63-8-6 (£4-4-8½) per cwt. Rates continued exceptionally high during the early part of the year, but when at the close of 1907 a slump in all the home markets in the price of leather set in, that of the raw material was naturally adversely affected. Further the tanning industry in Germany was faced with a contraction to normal limits in the Russian market, which had been temporarily inflated during the war with Japan, and Germany is the principal customer for India's raw hides. Calcutta hide shippers have been charged of late with lowering the standard of their assortments by packing to price, a practice against which the present method of Hamburg arbitration gives little or no relief to tanners.

The exports of **raw skins** declined by 35·9 per cent in quantity and by 39·1 per cent in value, and there was a decline in average declared value of 8·8 per cent. The United States being India's principal market, the volume of export was greatly affected by the paralysing effect of the financial crisis upon consumption, and the prohibition with effect from August 1, 1907, of the import of hides other than dry arsenic cured except under a certificate as to disinfection from the American Consul at the place of export, caused additional uneasiness to shippers on this side.

The share of each province in this class of exports was as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Bengal (Calcutta entirely) | 78·1 per cent |
| Burma | 8·4 „ |
| Madras | 5·3 „ |
| Sind | 5·1 „ |
| Bombay | 3·1 „ |

The principal countries participating in the shipments during 1907-08 were as follows (**in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling**):—

| | Hides | | | | Skins | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Value | | Percentage | | Value | | Percentage |
| | ₹ | £ | | | ₹ | £ | |
| Germany | 1,88,12= | 1,254 | 43·5 | United States | 1,99,05= | 1,327 | 72·8 |
| Austria-Hungary | 67,16 | 448 | 15·5 | United Kingdom | 26,55 | 177 | 9·7 |
| Italy | 55,08 | 367 | 12·7 | France | 20,36 | 136 | 7·5 |
| Spain | 34,70 | 231 | 8 | Germany | 5,81 | 39 | 2·1 |
| United States | 30,58 | 204 | 7·1 | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 22,71 | 151 | 5·2 | | | | |

Though efforts continue to be made to convince the Indian ryot of the wanton damage done to the industry by the unnecessary branding of cattle, very little abatement of the evil can yet be recorded.

**Jute** —The exports of raw jute now represent 23·6 per cent of the tota value of Indian raw produce exported as compared with 32·9 per cent in 1906-07, but at one time the year under review promised to be even more remarkable than the previous year. The estimates of area, outturn, consumption, and surplus in the last five years were as follows :—

| | Area | Outturn | Estimated Indian consumption | Estimated exportable surplus |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Acres | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts |
| 1903-04 | 2,214,000 | 25,861,000 | 11,726,000 | 14,135,000 |
| 1904-05 | 2,850,000 | 26,429,000 | 12,405,000 | 14,024,000 |
| 1905-06 | 3,128,000 | 29,421,000 | 14,427,000 | 14,994,000 |
| 1906-07 | 3,483,000 | 32,598,000 | 12,256,000 | 20,342,000 |
| 1907-08 | 3,883,000 | 34,235,000 | 15,000,000 | 19,235,000 |

On the basis of the latest figures 83·4 per cent of this monopoly crop is grown in Eastern Bengal and Assam and the balance in Bengal.

Jute is distinguished from certain other Indian crops in that the bulk of the harvest is moved in the statistical year in which it is grown. The shipments of 1907-08, therefore, include the major part of the exportable surplus of the 1907 harvest. The growth of the export trade is shown by the following statement, **the unit being 1,000**:—

| | Quantity | Centesimal variations | Value | | Average value per cwt | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 | 13,721 | + 5·3 | 11,71,81 = | 7,812 | 8·54 = | ·57 |
| 1904-05 | 12,875 | — 6·2 | 11,96,56 | 7,977 | 9·29 | ·62 |
| 1905-06 | 14,480 | + 12·5 | 17,12,57 | 11,417 | 11·83 | ·79 |
| 1906-07 | 15,970 | + 10·3 | 26,83,87 | 17,892 | 16·81 | 1·12 |
| 1907-08 | 14,192 | — 11·1 | 17,97,28 | 11,982 | 12·66 | ·84 |

During the year 1907-08 prices (per bale of 400 lbs) in the 1st week of each month were as follows :—

| | ₹ | £ | s. | d. | | ₹ | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1907 April | 63-0 | (4 | 4 | 0) | 1907 October | 42-8 | (2 | 16 | 8) |
| „ May | 60-0 | (4 | 0 | 0) | „ November | 43-8 | (2 | 18 | 0) |
| „ June | 53-0 | (3 | 10 | 8) | „ December | 36-0 | (2 | 8 | 0) |
| „ July | 48-0 | (3 | 4 | 0) | 1908 January | 36-0 | (2 | 8 | 0) |
| „ August | 42-8 | (2 | 16 | 8) | „ February | 34-0 | (2 | 5 | 4) |
| „ September | 40·8 | (2 | 14 | 0) | „ March | 38-0 | (2 | 10 | 8) |

The movement in prices was generally downward, but the great decline both in jute and jute fabrics dates from the last week of July, when the rates quoted for 9 and 11 Porter Hessians were about 25 per cent lower than those quoted in Dundee at the same time for the same classes of goods. After a temporary recovery and brisker markets in October and November there was again a sharp decline, and though in May 1908 this was made good, prices are now ₹14 a bale lower than at the same time last year. The average, however, of the year is ₹44-12 which is greater by 9·3 per cent than the average of the previous five years.

During the year under review the United Kingdom took 5,456,579 cwts or 38·4 per cent of the total exports of jute as against 6,857,596 cwts in the previous year. Germany took 2,957,022 cwts or 20·8 per cent of total exports as against 3,459,790 cwts in 1906-07. The United States took 1,981,455 cwts or 14 per cent, France 1,746,374 cwts or 12·3 per cent, Austria-Hungary 907,116 cwts or 6·4 per cent, Spain 389,423 cwts or 2·7 per cent, and Italy 545,060 cwts or 3·8 per cent. Calcutta shipped 88·8 per cent of the total and Chittagong 10·5 per cent, the balance being accounted for by shipments of Bimlipatam jute (*Hibiscus Cannabinus*) from Madras ports.

Allegations of the watering and adulteration of jute are less frequent, but Dundee has complained latterly of the amount of root left in the fibre which may require the organisation of a new department in the mills to deal with.

**Seeds**—The exports of **seeds**, of which all but an insignificant fraction are oilseeds, represent 22·1 per cent of the entire exports of Indian raw produce. They amounted to 23,185,000 cwts in 1907-08 with a value of ₹16·81 crores (11·2 millions sterling), which marks an increase of 3,449,000 cwts or 17·5 per cent in quantity and of ₹379·35 lakhs (£2,529,000) or 29·1 per cent in value and a rise of 9·9 per cent in specific value. The figures for the last five years have been as follows :—

| | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 . . . | 24,681,000 | 14,51,58,000 = | 9,677,000 |
| 1904-05 . . . | 26,874,000 | 14,41,08,000 | 9,607,000 |
| 1905-06 . . . | 17,576,000 | 10,60,92,000 | 7,073,000 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 19,736,000 | 13,02,17,000 | 8,681,000 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 23,185,000 | 16,81,52,000 | 11,210,000 |

It will be noted that, while the quantity falls short of the record figures of 1904-05 by 13·7 per cent, the total value of exports in 1907-08 is greater by 16·7 per cent. As compared with 1906-07, the increase is one of 17·5 per cent in quantity, 29·4 per cent in total value, and about 9·8 per cent in specific value. The quantities and values of the principal descriptions of seeds exported are shown below :—

| | 1905-06 | | | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | Percentage (values) to exports of raw produce |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | |
| Linseed . . . | 5,789 | 4,11,55 = | 2,744 | 4,379 | 3,25,98 = | 2,173 | 6,198 | 4,78,67 = | 3,191 | 6·3 |
| Rape . . . | 1,994 | 1,21,79 | 812 | 3,729 | 2,46,71 | 1,645 | 5,343 | 4,32,56 | 2,884 | 5·7 |
| Cotton . . . | 3,891 | 1,02,18 | 681 | 4,388 | 1,29,91 | 866 | 4,250 | 1 31,60 | 877 | 1·7 |
| Sesamum . . . | 1,685 | 1,46,93 | 980 | 2,741 | 2,53,80 | 1,692 | 1,553 | 1,69,17 | 1,128 | 2·2 |
| Groundnut . . . | 1,374 | 86,86 | 579 | 1,725 | 1,25,55 | 837 | 1,524 | 1,17,89 | 785 | 1·5 |
| Castor . . . | 1,299 | 78,67 | 524 | 1,505 | 1,14,17 | 761 | 1,994 | 1,51.78 | 1,012 | 2 |
| Poppy . . . | 797 | 60,22 | 401 | 803 | 65,77 | 438 | 1,257 | 1,25,21 | 835 | 1·6 |
| | | | | | | | | | TOTAL | 21 |

Of the total, Bombay shipped ₹867·1 lakhs (£5,781,000) or 51·6 per cent, Bengal ₹395·61 lakhs (£2,637,000) or 23·5 per cent, Sind ₹227·46 lakhs (£1,516,000) or 13·5 per cent, and Madras ₹176·52 lakhs (£1,177,000) or 10·5 per cent.

**Linseed** goes chiefly to the United Kingdom ₹167·37 lakhs (£1,116,000), France ₹129·07 lakhs (£860,000), Germany ₹60·43 lakhs (£403,000), and Italy ₹45·64 lakhs (£304,000).

The largest buyers of **rapeseed** are Germany ₹126·83 lakhs (£845,000), the United Kingdom ₹51·99 lakhs (£347,000), Belgium ₹135·69 lakhs (£905,000), and France ₹101·14 lakhs (£674,000).

**Sesamum and poppyseed** are shipped mainly to France ₹63·27 lakhs (£421,700) and ₹56·21 lakhs (£374,700) respectively, and to Belgium ₹46·35 lakhs (£309,000) and ₹54·32 lakhs (£362,100) respectively, **cotton-seed** to the United Kingdom ₹111·89 lakhs (£746,000), **castor seed** to the United Kingdom 85·54 lakhs (£ 570,000), and **ground nuts** to France 99·16 lakhs (£661,000).

Of **Linseed** the outturn in 1906-07 was estimated at 8,504,000 cwts of which only about 73 per cent was shipped. The market was not as strong as

that for certain other products, but India's exports increased by 41·6 per cent in quantity and by 46·8 per cent in value.

Of **Rapeseed** the total estimated outturn in India in 1906-07 was 21,062,000 cwts, the bulk being consumed in the country itself. The exports increased by 42·3 per cent in quantity and by 75·3 per cent in value, and the specific value rose by 22·4 per cent, thus more than recovering the ground lost in 1905-06.

The **Sesamum** crop was smaller than usual and the internal demand for the seed intensified by the enhanced price and enlarged export of rapeseed, and the exportable surplus was, therefore, considerably below the figures of 1906-07, though above those of 1905-06. The decline was one of 43·3 per cent in quantity and of 33·3 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being 17·6 per cent.

**Cotton seed** almost maintained its position in the Western markets as compared with the previous year's record figures of 4,387,540 cwts, while the value actually shews an advance from R129·91 lakhs (£866,000) to R131·6 lakhs (£877,000) equivalent to a rise in specific value of 4·7 per cent. The shipments to the United Kingdom represent 85·7 per cent of the whole exports of cotton seed, though the total declined from 4,015,900 to 3,643,500 cwts, while Egypt nearly trebled her demand from 165,140 to 476,600 cwts in 1907-08.

The exports of **Poppy seed** increased by 56·5 per cent in quantity and by 90·4 per cent in value, and a rise of 21·6 per cent in specific value. The actual figures are 1,256,562 cwts and R125·21 lakhs (£835,000), as compared with 802,600 cwts and R65·77 lakhs (£438,500) in 1906-07.

The exports of **Castor seed** increased by 32·5 per cent in quantity and by 32·9 per cent in value, the declared value being practically unchanged.

The exportation of **Ground nuts** declined by 11·6 per cent in quantity and 6·1 per cent in value, but in making deductions from these figures it must be remembered that a varying proportion of the exports of ground nuts from India is shipped from the French port of Pondicherry and so escapes registration in the trade of India. In 1906-07 the exports from Pondicherry amounted to 879,080 cwts with a value of R70·13 lakhs (£467,500) as against 672,460 cwts with a value of R43·64 lakhs (£291,000) in 1905-06.

**Silk**—India's position as a producer of silk is altogether unworthy of her potentialities. Her silk manufactures are unprogressive, and though the **exports** of **raw silk** shew a negligible decrease in quantity, the values have receded from R 68·65 lakhs (£458,000) in 1906-07 to R 63·78 lakhs (£425,000), equivalent to a decline in specific value of 7·1 per cent. In **reeled mulberry silk** there was a loss of 2 per cent in the average value, and exports declined by 5 per cent in quantity and by 7·8 per cent in value—from 753,664 lbs and R58·71 lakhs (£391,000) in 1906-07 to 716,134 lbs and R54·14 lakhs (£361,000) in 1907-08. In this section (reeled silk), therefore, there was an over-all decline of 2·1 per cent in specific value. Bengal dropped from 634,982 lbs and R50·13 lakhs (£334,000) to 512,142 lbs and R41·34 lakhs (£275,600), while Bombay, after several successive years of retrogression, improved her contribution to 217,391 lbs valued at R13·3 lakhs (£88,700), or by 59·9 per cent in quantity and by 44·2 per cent in value, but did so only at a further loss in average value which has been the feature of her trade in this commodity in recent years. Bengal's decline was one of 19·3 per cent in quantity and 17·5 per cent in value.

The distribution of the exports of **reeled silk** (mulberry and wild) was as follows :—

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | ₹ | £ | lbs | ₹ | £ |
| To United Kingdom . | 210,823 | 17,98,072 | =119,871 | 219,712 | 16,69,993 | =111,333 |
| „ France . . | 487,073 | 34,80,297 | 232,020 | 466,849 | 34,11,345 | 227,423 |
| „ United States . | 47,610 | 4,24,877 | 28,325 | 29,072 | 2,63,680 | 17,579 |
| „ Other countries . | 32,148 | 2,35,480 | 15,699 | 15,100 | 1,22,192 | 8,146 |

The exports of **Waste Silk** (*Chasam*), 31·6 per cent of which was wild silk, increased in quantity to 1,093,384 lbs but declined in value to ₹7·9 lakhs (£53,000). The average declared value per lb, therefore, declined from 12·5 annas (1*s* 0½*d*) to 11·5 annas (11½*d*). The exportation of **Cocoons** (the majority being 'wild') increased to 119,009 lbs and ₹1·21 lakhs (£8,000). The average value slightly advanced.

**Teak Timber**—The total exports of teak declined by 10·5 per cent in quantity to 39,539 cub. tons and in value by ·2 per cent to ₹61·35 lakhs (£409,000). The average price in Calcutta of teak was maintained at the 1906-07 level (₹122-127—£8-2-8 to £8-9-4—per ton of 50 cub. ft.) but the year closed with prospects of a decline in sympathy with the world's market for timber, unless the intensified internal demand, which is shown by the increase of 22·5 per cent in the shipments from Burma to India proper, bringing the total value to ₹98·83 lakhs (£658,866), is maintained.

The value of **Sandalwood** exported during 1907-08 amounted to ₹12·07 lakhs (£80,500). This is a Government monopoly in Mysore and forms one of the principal items of the State's receipts. The chief foreign markets are Germany, France, and the United States.

**Wool**—In the first six months of 1907-08 the world's markets were strong, and in September owing to a temporary shortage of raw material prices were unduly inflated, but unfortunately for shippers the American financial panic occurred just when the abundant new supplies of Colonial wool were coming upon the market, and, in spite of large withdrawals at auction, prices fell very sharply and up to the close of the year had not made any marked recovery. There was some falling-off in the supply of E. I. wool which may have tended to protect India to some extent from the decline in prices, but greater discrimination was shewn in the rejection of dirty parcels, the prices for which were irregular and often extremely low.

After four years of progressive increases the total exports from India fell from 45·9 million lbs, value ₹242·65 lakhs (£1,618,000), to 39·8 million lbs, value ₹210·34 lakhs (£1,402,000). Thus there was a fall of about 13·3 per cent both in quantity and in value, the specific value in 1907-08 being practically unchanged (8·5 annas-8½*d*-per lb). The United Kingdom took wool to the value of ₹204·84 lakhs (£1,366,000) as against ₹232·09 lakhs (£1,547,000) in 1906-07, the United States ₹2·42 lakhs (£16,000) as against ₹5·58 lakhs (£37,000) in 1906-07, while Japan fell away from ₹2·45 lakhs (£16,000) to ₹1·99 lakhs (£13,000). Re-exports of foreign wool, however, chiefly to the United Kingdom, showed a further substantial advance at ₹32·76 lakhs (£218,000), as against ₹29·59 lakhs (£197,000) in the previous year.

The **other principal raw materials** exported have, in the last three years, been as follows :—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Animal bones . | 49,78,778= | 331,919 | 55,45,241= | 369,683 | 54,45,034= | 363,002 |
| Bristles and fibre . | 21,51,028 | 143,402 | 17,68,930 | 117,929 | 15,44,535 | 102,969 |
| Caoutchouc . . | 12,82,129 | 85,475 | 11,18,487 | 74,566 | 5,78,397 | 38,560 |
| Hemp . . | 54,19,756 | 361,317 | 68,73,395 | 458,226 | 80,63,544 | 537,570 |
| Horns . . | 17,49,944 | 116,663 | 16,91,532 | 112,769 | 16,49,769 | 109,985 |
| Lac (stick and seed) . . | 7,79,613 | 51,974 | 12,86,242 | 85,749 | 20,59,704 | 137,314 |
| Mica . . . | 23,94,314 | 159,628 | 38,24,988 | 254,999 | 34,22,420 | 228,161 |
| Oil-cake, fodder, and manure . | 68,98,380 | 459,892 | 75,99,121 | 506,608 | 75,17,393 | 501,160 |
| Rice-bran . . | 55,41,825 | 369,455 | 49,35,551 | 329,037 | 87,82,418 | 585,495 |

Of these rice-bran, hemp, and oil-cakes are the most important items. **Rice-bran** increased by ₹38·47 lakhs (£256,000) or 78 per cent. The trade in **hemp** rose by ₹11·9 lakhs (£79,000) or 17 per cent, but that in **oil-cakes** declined by ₹·82 lakh (£5,500) or 1·1 per cent. This item consists chiefly of castor and groundnut shipped to the Straits for manurial purposes. A decline of ₹1 lakh (£6,700) or 1·8 per cent occurred in **Bones.** Under **Bristles and fibre for brushes and brooms** (chiefly palmyra) there was a decline of ₹2·24 lakhs (£15,000), owing to reduced shipments from Tuticorin and Coconada, and under **Horns** of ₹·42 lakh (£2,800). The remainder forms a group of articles in which modern industries are much interested. The exports of **Mica** fell short of the previous year's figures by ₹4·02 lakhs (£27,000) or 10·5 per cent. The continuous advance in the total value of **stick-lac** exported is striking, the figures for 1907-08 represent an advance of 323·2 per cent on those for 1904-05, accompanied by a rise in specific value of 44·8 per cent. In **Caoutchouc** there was a marked decline in value equivalent to 48 per cent, partly due to the fall in price of Para rubber, which governs this market, but the quantity exported declined by 33·4 per cent to 2,990 cwts as compared with 4,489 cwts in 1906-07.

## VII.—ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

It should be remembered that many articles which strictly are manufactured or partly manufactured are included in the returns under other heads, for example, milled-rice, wheat-flour, coffee, and tea are found under "Articles of food and drink," machinery is included in the group "Metals," saltpetre in "Chemicals," opium and tobacco in "Narcotics," indigo in "Dyes," and vegetable and mineral oils under the group "Oils." The group "Articles manufactured and partly manufactured" in fact is not a complete measure of India's industrial export, but only contains such manufactured and partly manufactured articles as cannot be included under one or the other main groups of articles.

The statement below shows the comparative value for the past five years of each principal class in this group, **the unit being 1,000:**

| | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Jute goods . . . | 9,46,92 = | 6,313 | 9,93,88= | 6,626 | 12,44,80 = | 8,299 | 15,71,62 = | 10,477 | 18,29,76 = | 12,198 |
| Cotton yarn and goods . | 10,47,23 | 6,982 | 11,64,32 | 7,762 | 14,42,55 | 9,617 | 12,16,82 | 8,112 | 10,76,66 | 7,178 |
| Tanned hides and skins | 3,09,88 | 2,066 | 2,85,17 | 1,901 | 3,65,84 | 2,439 | 4,45,12 | 2,967 | 3,89,97 | 2,600 |
| Lac . . . . | 2,67,99 | 1,787 | 2,98,23 | 1,983 | 3,10,21 | 2,068 | 3,37,11 | 2,247 | 3,87,71 | 2,585 |
| Coir . . . . | 47,90 | 319 | 51,65 | 344 | 54,16 | 361 | 56,00 | 373 | 53,64 | 358 |
| Woollens . . . | 27,42 | 183 | 22,57 | 151 | 20,75 | 138 | 22,93 | 153 | 27,19 | 181 |
| Apparel . . . | 21,99 | 147 | 18,78 | 125 | 19,42 | 129 | 19,57 | 130 | 20,24 | 135 |
| Candles . . . . | 9,05 | 60 | 9,48 | 63 | 16,53 | 110 | 14,21 | 95 | 15,48 | 103 |
| Silks . . . . | 8,32 | 55 | 7,30 | 49 | 7,15 | 48 | 6,86 | 46 | 8,31 | 55 |

The most noticeable feature in this table is perhaps the decline of ₹140·16 lakhs (£934,000) or 11·5 per cent in **Cotton Yarns and Goods**. This was due in part to the strong internal demand for Indian goods and should be compared with the figures relating to the imports of cotton goods. The disorganisation of the trade with the Further East, particularly with China, also contributed to the fall, more particularly in recent months. The increase of ₹258·14 lakhs (£1,721,000) in **jute goods,** equivalent to an expansion of 16·4 per cent in one year, though chiefly due to a rise in specific values, is sufficiently striking, but it would have been even larger if prices had not fallen in the latter part of the year. The South American demand continues to intensify.

Under **Tanned Hides and Skins** the decrease of total value was one of ₹55·15 lakhs (£368,000), but **Lac** increased by ₹50·59 lakhs (£337,000). Deductions of increased economic activity from the rise of ₹1·27 lakh (£8,500) in the exports of **Candles** are vitiated by the advance of ₹1·54 lakhs (£10,300) in the imports of that article. There has been a satisfactory advance of ₹4·26 lakhs (£28,400) in the exports of **Woollens**, and a small but welcome increase in the exports of **Silk** from ₹6·86 lakhs (£45,700) to ₹8·31 lakhs (£55,400) after five years' progressive decline.

**Cotton goods**—The decline in the exports of **Cotton Manufactures** from the level of 1905-06, which was noticed in last year's review, continued in 1907-08. The contraction in the exportable surplus of yarn is sufficiently explained by a remarkable advance in the output of the looms, particularly in Bombay and the United Provinces, and for cloth there is undoubtedly an intensified internal demand as is illustrated by increased shipments of cotton piecegoods from the Bombay Presidency to other provinces. The inward movement of cotton manufactures by rail from Bombay, however, shows a slight decrease on the figures of the previous year (421,763 maunds against 454,949 maunds). The figures for the past three years are as follows, **the unit being 1,000 :—**

| | 1905-06 | | | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | yds | ₹ | £ | yds | ₹ | £ | yds | ₹ | £ |
| To Bengal . | 35,518 | 57,93 = | 386 | 39,947 | 62,29 = | 415 | 86,140 | 1,53,65 = | 1,024 |
| „ Sind . | 119,579 | 1,62,01 | 1,080 | 109,902 | 1,59,50 | 1,063 | 136,127 | 2,03,80 | 1,359 |
| „ Madras . | 2,175 | 4,01 | 27 | 1,957 | 3,51 | 23 | 2,872 | 5,13 | 34 |
| „ Burma . | 11,884 | 19,72 | 131 | 8,767 | 15,70 | 105 | 9,889 | 18,49 | 123 |
| „ Indian Ports, not British . | 3,995 | 5,85 | 39 | 3,941 | 5,68 | 38 | 3,973 | 6,57 | 44 |
| TOTAL . | 173,151 | 2,49,52 | 1,663 | 164,514 | 2,46,63 | 1,644 | 239,001 | 3,87,65 | 2,584 |

The following statement shows the quantities and values of yarns and piece goods produced and exported to foreign countries in the last five years, **the unit in all cases being 1,000 :—**

| | Yarns (lbs) | | | Piecegoods (yards) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Production | Export | Percentage of export to production | Production | Export | Percentage of export to production |
| 1903-04 . . | 578,759 | 253,474 | 43·6 | 460,544* | 75,815 | 9·2 |
| 1904-05 . . | 578,381 | 247,855 | 42·8 | 549,529* | 87,456 | 9·6 |
| 1905-06 . . | 680,918 | 297,634 | 43·7 | 564,990* | 91,975 | 9·9 |
| 1906-07 . . | 653,700 | 243,517 | 37·2 | 708,140 | 76,699 | 10·8 |
| 1907-08 . . | 638,295 | 215,576 | 33·8 | 808,426 | 74,128 | 9·2 |

**Yarn** represents 83·3 per cent of the total value and shews a net decrease of ₹142·35 lakhs (£949,000) or 13·7 per cent on the figures for the

* Relates to grey and bleached piecegoods only and the percentage of export to production for those years has been calculated on those classes of goods

previous year. The quantitative decrease in the exports of yarn from India was 11·5 per cent so that there was a fall of 2·5 per cent in specific value. The exports to China representing 74·3 per cent of total value, as against 91·4 per cent in 1906-07, fell from ₹949·85 lakhs (£6,332,000) to ₹666·55 lakhs (£4,444,000), a decline of 29·8 per cent on the figures for the previous year. Similarly the value of exports from the United Kingdom to China fell from £305,891 in 1905 and £243,106 in 1906 to £207,365 in 1907. Fluctuations in exchange upset the trade which was further burdened with some accumulation of previous years' stocks, and the indigenous production of China, thanks to vigorous official dry-nursing, seems to be increasing at a rate which portends the eventual closing of this market to foreign imports. The estimated production of 28 mills in China in 1907 amounted to 450,000 bales of yarn as compared with receipts from India of 428,000 bales and 11,000 bales from the United Kingdom. In view of these facts it is satisfactory to record that the trade with countries other than China shows a welcome increase of some ₹140·94 lakhs (£940,000).

The trade with the Levant continues to respond in an encouraging way to the efforts made, chiefly by Bombay, to capture that market. The figures for Levantine ports rose from 2,896,340 lbs to 8,944,280 lbs in the year under review and to ports in Turkey in Europe from 342,830 lbs to 1,925,784 lbs. Trade with the Turkish ports in the Persian Gulf fell from 2,420,280 lbs to 1,341,160 lbs, but the total for the Ottoman Empire is 12,211,224 lbs against 5,659,450 lbs in 1906-07. The Egyptian demand advanced from 1,564,710 lbs to 3,017,176 lbs in 1907-08.

The principal foreign markets for Indian cloth are East Africa, Aden, Ceylon, and the Straits. The exports of **Piecegoods** decreased by ₹1·62 lakh (£11,000) or one per cent, which is ascribed to a strong internal demand. The quantitative decrease was one of 3·4 per cent, so there was a rise of 2·5 per cent in specific value.

The exports of **Grey goods** amounted to 39,433,666 yards with a value of ₹59·74 lakhs (£398,000), as against 42,218,822 yards and ₹61·28 lakhs (£408,500) in 1906-07. This represents 36·5 per cent of the total value of piecegoods and marks decrease of 6·6 per cent in quantity and 2·5 per cent in value with a rise of 4·4 per cent in specific value. The shipments of grey goods to China was 926,170 yards with a value of ₹1·19 lakh (£8,000), as against 995,866 yards and ₹1·34 lakh (£9,000) in 1906-07, the decline being 7 per cent in quantity and 11·2 per cent in value.

**Coloured goods** decreased slightly in value by ·6 per cent to ₹101·98 lakhs (£680,000) but increased by ·3 per cent in quantity to 34,320,000 yards.

**Dyed and printed cloths** go mainly from Madras and Bombay to the Straits, Aden, Ceylon, and the Philippines, and the shipments in 1907-08 from the two ports named had a value of ₹71·68 lakhs (£478,000) and ₹29·47 lakhs (£196,000) respectively.

The number of **cotton mills** at work in British India on the 31st March 1908 was 224, of which 181 were joint stock concerns with a capital of £563,520 and ₹13·4 crores or £9,511,869 in all. There were registered during the twelve months ending March 1908, 13 new textile concerns with a nominal capital of ₹128·25 lakhs (£855,000) and new capital to the extent of ₹95 lakhs or £633,000 was raised by existing companies. It is estimated that there were at the close of the official year 5,764,346 spindles and 65,741 looms in position. The additions to

plant in 1907-08 amounted to 218,058 spindles and 6,142 looms. Of the spindles 4,106,281 were in Bombay, 410,541 in Bengal, and 307,664 in Madras. Of the looms 52,436 were in Bombay, 781 in Bengal, and 1,748 in Madras.

In the past ten years the number of looms has increased by nearly 76 per cent against 29 per cent for spindles.

The following statement shows for each of the last five years the spinning and weaving plant in position, the production of yarn and of cloth, and the average monthly production per spindle and per loom :—

| | Spindles No. | Yarn production lbs | Average monthly production per spindle lbs | Looms No. | Cloth production lbs | Average monthly production per loom lbs |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 . | 5,167,608 | 578,759,075 | 9·3 | 45,281 | 138,044,172 | 254 |
| 1904-05 . | 5,196,432 | 578,381,275 | 9·3 | 47,305 | 158,746,555 | 280 |
| 1905-06 . | 5,293,834 | 680,918,581 | 10·7 | 52,281 | 163,880,194 | 261 |
| 1906-07 . | 5,546,288 | 653,700,460 | 9·8 | 59,599 | 165,767,858 | 232 |
| 1907-08 . | 5,764,346 | 638,295,115 | 9·3 | 65,741 | 189,051,729 | 240 |

As regards prices, T-cloths which had declined in 1906-07 from as. 10 to as. 9 per lb, never rose above as. $9\frac{3}{32}$ during the year, and closed at as. $9\frac{1}{12}$ per lb. The average value of yarn was as. $6\frac{1}{2}$ per lb as compared with as. $6\frac{29}{32}$ in 1906-07. The prices of the raw material have been discussed elsewhere.

**Jute goods**—The exports of **Jute Manufactures** in the three years ending 1905-06 represented 34·4 per cent of the total exports of Indian manufactured articles. In 1906-07 the percentage rose to 41·5 per cent and in 1907-08 to 46·6 per cent.

The following statement shows for the last five years the quantity and value of the exports of various classes of goods, **the unit being 1,000** :—

| | | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags . | No. | 206,208 | 201,436 | 233,326 | 257,683 | 293,029 |
| | ₹ | 4,56,47 | 4,75,54 | 6,07,84 | 7,34,72 | 8,47,51 |
| | £ | 3,043 | 3,170 | 4,052 | 4,898 | 5,650 |
| Cloth . | Yards | 552,320 | 575,512 | 658,671 | 696,068 | 789,856 |
| | ₹ | 4,84,53 | 5,11,61 | 6,30,50 | 8,25,87 | 9,69,29 |
| | £ | 3,230 | 3,411 | 4,203 | 5,506 | 6,462 |
| Value of all sorts | ₹ | 9,46,92 | 9,93,89 | 12,44,80 | 15,71,62 | 18,29,76 |
| | £ | 6,313 | 6,626 | 8,299 | 10,477 | 12,198 |

Judged by this remarkable advance, the year would appear to have been one of unexampled prosperity for the mills which increased the number of their looms by 7·5 per cent and of their spindles by 7·9 per cent. In the early part of the year, however, the industry was to some extent handicapped by a rise in the cost of the raw material, and when the fall of prices came, it was accompanied by such a restricted demand for the finished article that stocks began rapidly to accumulate, and short time was agreed upon in March, as the only way to meet the difficulty. Though the margin of profit was low, the mills were kept busy for six months with an astonishingly active export trade: for after short shipment of wheat in the two previous years the 1907 crop exceeded expectations and a bumper wheat and good maize harvest in the Argentine Republic required enhanced supplies of gunnies and cloth. This to some extent explains why the consumption of raw material in Indian mills is believed to have exceeded by 22·4 per cent the figures of the previous year.

The exports of **Bags** increased by 13·7 per cent in quantity and 15·3 per cent in value, the enhancement of specific value being 1·4 per cent. **Cloth** increased by 13·5 per cent in quantity and 17·4 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being 3·4 per cent. Judged by export declarations the specific value of the raw material fell by 24·6 per cent. This would appear to contradict the presumption of reduced profits, but it must be remembered that the bulk of the newly harvested fibre came on to the market, when the depression caused by the American crisis was at its height, and the fabrics exported in 1907-08 were in the main manufactured of jute grown in the previous year.

**Bags**—The largest buyer of Indian jute fabrics is the United States which, because of her heavy import duty on made bags, takes her supplies mainly as cloth. In 1907-08, however, she took bags to the value of ₹79·79 lakhs (£532,000) as against ₹48·27 lakhs (£322,000)—an increase in value equivalent to 65·3 per cent. The largest single buyer of bags is Australia which increased her demand by 8 per cent to ₹170·79 lakhs (£1,139,000) as against ₹158·18 lakhs (£1,054,000) in 1906-07. The new tariff increases the import duty from 10 to 15 per cent *ad valorem.*

The growth of nearly 15 per cent in the exports of bags to the United Kingdom, which rose to ₹109·11 lakhs (£727,000) from ₹94·9 lakhs (£633,000), has to be set off against a decline in the value of exports of cloth equivalent to 37·3 per cent. The exports of bags to Chile rose to ₹58·53 lakhs (£390,000) or by 20·5 per cent, but to Peru declined from ₹12·38 lakhs (£82,500) to ₹10·46 lakhs (£70,000) or by 15·5 per cent. Egypt also declined from ₹49·39 lakhs (£329,000) to ₹42·33 lakhs (£282,000) and China from ₹45·27 lakhs (£302,000) to ₹21·47 lakhs (£143,000), while the West Indies with ₹35·16 lakhs (£234,000) scarcely maintained the increased demand of the two previous years.

The Straits Settlements, which form an important distributing centre, declined to ₹61·74 lakhs (£412,000) as against ₹66·87 lakhs (£446,000), which may be explained by an increase in direct shipments to Indo-China from ₹19·24 lakhs (£128,000) to ₹41·18 lakhs (£275,000) or by 114 per cent, to Java from ₹7·65 lakhs (£51,000) to ₹21·87 lakhs (£146,000) or 186 per cent, and to Siam from ₹9·05 lakhs (£60,000) to ₹17·85 lakhs (£119,000) or 97 per cent, to serve the growing export trade in rice. Cape Colony with ₹17·02 lakhs (£113,000) bettered her position by some ₹1·45 lakh (£10,000) and Natal with ₹16·93 lakhs (£113,000) rose by ₹6·26 lakhs (£42,000) or by 58·7 per cent. Germany took ₹26·32 lakhs (£175,000) as against ₹14·29 lakhs (£95,000) in 1906-07 and Belgium rose by ₹5·72 lakhs (£38,000) to ₹14·99 lakhs (£100,000). Turkey in Asia increased her purchases to ₹20·03 lakhs (£133,000), while shipments to Turkey in Europe declined to ₹6·1 lakhs (£41,000), the total increase for Turkey being ₹97,000 (£6,500).

**Cloth**—The exports of **Cloth** increased from ₹825·87 lakhs (£5,506,000) to ₹969·29 lakhs (£6,462,000). Of this the United States took 60·3 per cent with a value of ₹584·85 lakhs (£3,899,000) as against ₹539·48 lakhs (£3,597,000) in 1906-07—an increase of 8·4 per cent. The shipments of cloth to the Argentine rose from ₹128 lakhs (£853,000) to ₹240·91 lakhs (£1,606,000) or by 88·2 per cent in value, but the value of bags taken fell from ₹4·38 lakhs (£29,000) in 1906-07 to ₹1·65 lakhs (£11,000). The shipments to the United Kingdom, which are mainly for distribution, are much below those of the previous year, the figures for the past three years being ₹42·87 lakhs (£286,000) in 1905-06, ₹81·43 lakhs (£543,000) in 1906-07, and ₹51·09 lakhs (£341,000)

in 1907-08. China took R4·39 lakhs (£29,000) as against R25·19 lakhs (£168,000) in 1906-07 and Australia R30·66 lakhs (£204,000) instead of R21·01 lakhs (£140,000) in 1906-07.

**Silk goods**—The exports of **Silk Manufactures** shew a percentage increase of 21·1 over the figures of 1906-07, but even now amount to only R8·31 lakhs (£55,400). The exports are chiefly tissues woven in Bengal and Burma from indigenous silks. Elsewhere the industry depends mainly upon internal markets and will continue to do so while it remains scattered and unorganized. It is satisfactory to record efforts that are being made, as in Benares and Madura, to develop it on the lines of co-operation between the weavers.

**Woollens**--Exports of **Woollen Manufactures** increased by 18·6 per cent to R27·19 lakhs (£181,000). **Carpets and Rugs** continue by far the most important class and represent some 90 per cent of the total. A total value of R24·4 lakhs (£163,000) represents an advance of 16·8 per cent on the figures of the previous year; the share of the United Kingdom being R18·24 lakhs (£122,000) and of the United States R4·72 lakhs (£31,000). **Piecegoods** and other miscellaneous manufactures, despite increased internal requirements, advanced by 37·4 per cent to a value of R2·79 lakhs (£18,600), but these figures are still considerably short of those for 1904-05, namely, R3·7 lakhs (£24,700).

The export of **Apparel** in 1907-08 rose to R20·24 lakhs (£135,000) and mark an advance of R67,000 (£4,500) on the figures for 1906-07. **Boots and Shoes,** which form the most important sub-head in this class, increased from R4·68 lakhs (£31,000) to R5·57 lakhs (£37,000). The trade with China shews a slight increase from R13,500 (£900) to R15,900 (£1,060), but is capable of infinitely greater development, if local predilections are carefully studied—more especially if the price of leather remains, as at present, low. Re-exports of foreign boots and shoes amounted to R35,304 (£2,354), as against R49,551 (£3,303) in 1906-07.

**Coir**—The exports of coir-matting and other manufactures of coir, the trade in which is almost entirely confined to the Malabar Coast of Madras, continue their steady growth. Their value amounted in 1907-08 to R53·64 lakhs (£358,000), of which the United Kingdom took R14·03 lakhs (£93,500), Germany R19 54 lakhs (£130,000), Belgium R5·30 lakhs (£35,000), France R4·49 lakhs (£30,000), Holland R3·30 lakhs (£22,000), and the United States R2·45 lakhs (£16,000). There was a rise in specific value of 5·9 per cent.

**Hides and Skins, tanned**—The export under these heads during the past five years has been as follows :—

| | Tanned Hides | | | Tanned Skins | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ |
| 1903-04 | . 102,625 | 61,45,989 | =409,733 | 161,869 | 2,48,42,770 | =1,656,185 |
| 1904-05 | . 123,390 | 82,52,052 | 550,137 | 139,214 | 2,02,65,121 | 1,351,008 |
| 1905-06 | . 201,982 | 1,54,80,070 | 1,032,005 | 138,898 | 2,11,04,250 | 1,406,950 |
| 1906-07 | . 219,855 | 1,72,96,337 | 1,153,089 | 150,465 | 2,72,16,204 | 1,814,414 |
| 1907-08 | . 131,532 | 1,05,52,045 | 703,470 | 151,784 | 2,84,45,273 | 1,896,352 |

The exports of **tanned hides** in the year under review declined by 40·2 per cent in quantity and 39 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being nearly 2 per cent. Supplies were short, and rates should have been even better, but declined in sympathy with the European leather market towards the close of the year. The average value per cwt was R80-3-6 (£5 6*s.* 11½*d.*).

The increase in the export of **tanned skins** was one of ·9 per cent in quantity and 4·5 per cent in value, the specific value per cwt having risen by

3·6 per cent to ₹187-7-4 (£12 9*s.* 11⅓*d.*), but the group being composite, it would be unsafe to rely too much upon fluctuations in average rates.

The quantities of **tanned hides, goat skins, and sheep skins** shipped to different principal countries during the past two years have been as follows:—

| | Hides | | Sheep skins | | Goat skins | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1906-07 cwts | 1907-08 cwts | 1906-07 cwts | 1907-08 cwts | 1906-07 cwts | 1907-08 cwts |
| United Kingdom . | 202,112 | 126,132 | 42,450 | 46,938 | 69,456 | 73,102 |
| United States . | 13,957 | 1,265 | 13,894 | 11,181 | 13,280 | 8,128 |
| Germany . . | 1,508 | 2,163 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Egypt . . . | 1,393 | 1,079 | ... | 4 | ... | 6 |
| Straits Settlements . | 219 | 65 | 2,881 | 5,402 | 128 | 26 |
| Belgium . . | ... | ... | 85 | 165 | 396 | 661 |
| Japan . . . | ... | ... | 2,192 | 2,447 | 430 | 368 |

The United Kingdom received 95·9 per cent of tanned hides and 80·7 per cent of tanned skins, and continues a distributing agent for both the Continental and American markets.

In 1907 the United Kingdom received from India, according to the Board of Trade returns, 290,952 cwts of leather, against 354,877 cwts in 1906 and 297,566 cwts in 1905.

The export trade is almost entirely through the ports of Madras and Bombay. The former ships 86·7 per cent of tanned hides and 71·4 per cent of tanned skins, and Bombay 13·1 and 26·7 per cent, respectively.

**Lac** has risen continuously in price in recent years in sympathy with increased external demand, and though there is no immediate likelihood of India losing her place as the chief source of supply, the more scientific cultivation and harvesting of the crop has for some time past been engaging the attention of the Forest department. Unfortunately much of the lac comes from forests in Native States where no agency for conservancy and development at present exists.

Shellac and button-lac represent the manufactured article, stick and seed-lac the raw material, but the distinction is somewhat unreal and the trade is not so distinct as to justify separate treatment. The figures of quantities and values exported during the last three years are as under:—

| | 1905-06 | | | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| Shellac . | 217,593 | 2,64,53,774 | = 1,763,585 | 205,473 | 2,89,75,551 | = 1,931,704 | 278,338 | 3,32,38,167 | = 2,215,878 |
| Button-lac . | 41,851 | 44,41,287 | 296,086 | 37,117 | 44,45,914 | 2,96,394 | 39,512 | 46,80,489 | 312,032 |
| Total . | 259,444 | 3,08,95,061 | 2,059,671 | 242,590 | 3,34,21,465 | 2,228,098 | 317,850 | 3,79,18,656 | 2,527,910 |
| Stick and seed-lac . | 11,004 | 7,79,613 | 51,974 | 15,188 | 12,86,242 | 85,749 | 22,740 | 20,59,704 | 137,314 |

It may be assumed that a given quantity of stick and seed-lac yields in the factory half that quantity of shell or button-lac.

There has been a quantitative rise of 35·5 per cent in shellac accompanied by an increase of 14·7 per cent in total value, and in button-lac of 6·4 per cent in quantity and 5·3 per cent in value. Together the two increased by 31 per cent in quantity and by 13·5 per cent in value, the difference marking a decrease in specific value by 13·4 per cent. On the other hand, crude material, stick-lac and seed-lac, increased by 49·7 per cent in quantity and 60·1 per cent in total value, equivalent to a rise of 6·9 per cent in specific value, but conclusions deduced from declared values in the case of exports not subject to duty are notoriously unsafe.

The highest price for shellac (T. N.) in the year under report was R156·5 (£10 8*s.* 8*d.*) per cwt in April 1907 and the lowest R68 (£4 10*s.* 8*d.*)in November 1907. These shew a much wider range of prices than the maximum and minimum in the previous year, which were R155·3 (£10 6*s.* 11*d.*) and R126·9 (£8 9*s* 2⅖*d.*) respectively.

The United States continued the principal buyer of the manufactured article and took lac to the value of R134·45 lakhs (£896,000) in 1907-08 against R167·95 lakhs (£1,120,000) in 1906-07. Shipments to the United Kingdom increased from R91·47 lakhs (£610,000) to R119·02 lakhs (£793,000), while Germany took R98·58 lakhs (£657,000) in place of R58·66 lakhs (£391,000) in 1906-07.

## TRADE ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

The following table shows the value in **rupees and pounds sterling** of the trade in merchandise only (excluding Government transactions) of British India with (1) the United Kingdom, (2) other British Possessions, and (3) the foreign countries, separately, during the each of the last three years and the centesimal percentages:—

| | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Value | Percentage | Value | Percentage | Value | Percentage |
| *Imports*— | | | | | | | |
| From United Kingdom | ₹ | 68,73,88,069 | 66·7 | 72,29,79,669 | 66·8 | 86,64,95,926 | 66·8 |
| | £ | 45,825,871 | ... | 48,198,645 | | 57,766,395 | |
| „ Other British Possessions | ₹ | 7,86,07,657 | 7·6 | 8,33,73,951 | 7·7 | 9,52,98,445 | 7·3 |
| | £ | 5,240,511 | ... | 5,558,263 | | 6,353,229 | |
| „ Foreign Countries | ₹ | 26,48,44,979 | 25·7 | 27,67,22,198 | 25·5 | 33,67,69,003 | 25·9 |
| | £ | 17,656,332 | ... | 18,448,147 | | 22,451,267 | |
| TOTAL | ₹ | 103,08,40,705 | 100 | 108,30,75,818 | 100 | 129,85,63,374 | 100 |
| | £ | 68,722,714 | ... | 72,205,055 | | 86,570,891 | |
| *Exports, including Re-exports*— | | | | | | | |
| To United Kingdom | ₹ | 40,67,80,746 | 25·1 | 47,74,53,552 | 27·1 | 45,69,68,428 | 25·8 |
| | £ | 27,118,716 | ... | 31,830,237 | | 30,464,562 | |
| „ Other British Possessions | ₹ | 33,46,20,137 | 20·7 | 32,53,92,935 | 18·4 | 30,36,34,191 | 17·1 |
| | £ | 22,308,009 | ... | 21,692,862 | | 20,242,280 | |
| „ Foreign Countries | ₹ | 87,57,79,448 | 54·2 | 96,28,14,035 | 54·5 | 101,12,73,905 | 57·1 |
| | £ | 58,385,297 | ... | 64,187,602 | | 67,418,260 | |
| TOTAL | ₹ | 161,71,80,331 | 100 | 176,56,60,522 | 100 | 177,18,76,524 | 100 |
| | £ | 107,812,022 | ... | 117,710,701 | | 118,125,102 | |
| *Total Imports and Exports*— | | | | | | | |
| From United Kingdom | ₹ | 109,41,68,815 | 41·3 | 120,04,33,221 | 42·1 | 132,34,64,354 | 43·1 |
| | £ | 72,944,587 | ... | 80,028,882 | | 88,230,957 | |
| „ Other British Possessions | ₹ | 41,32,27,794 | 15·6 | 40,87,66,886 | 14·4 | 39,89,32,636 | 13 |
| | £ | 27,548,520 | ... | 27,251,125 | | 26,595,509 | |
| Foreign Countries | ₹ | 114,06,24,427 | 43·1 | 123,95,36,233 | 43·5 | 134,80,42,908 | 43·9 |
| | £ | 76,041,629 | ... | 82,635,749 | | 89,869,527 | |
| TOTAL | ₹ | 264,80,21,036 | 100 | 284,87,36,340 | 100 | 307,04,33,898 | 100 |
| | £ | 176,534,736 | ... | 189,915,756 | | 204,695,993 | |

The trade with the **United Kingdom** has increased by ₹12·30 crores (£8·2 millions), and her share in the total trade has slightly risen from 42·1 to 43·1 per cent of the total trade. Though the centesimal proportion remained constant, the imports increased by 14·35 crores (£9·6 millions) or 20 per cent, while the value of exports declined by ₹2·05 crores (£1·3 millions), and the proportion from 27·1 to 25·8 per cent.

The trade with **British Possessions other than the United Kingdom** is less by ₹98·34 lakhs (£656,000) and represents 13 per cent of the total trade as against 14·4 per cent in 1906-07. There was a rise of ₹1·20 crore (£800,000) or 14·4 per cent under imports, but a decline of ₹2·18 crores (£1,450,000) or 7 per cent under exports. The centesimal variations are respectively 7·3 and 17·1 against 7·7 and 18·4 in the previous year.

Trade with **foreign countries** has increased by ₹10·85 crores (over 7 millions sterling) and represents 43·9 per cent of the total trade. The imports increased by ₹6·01 crores (£4 millions) or 21·7 per cent and exports by ₹4·85 crores (£3·2 millions) or 5 per cent, the centesimal variations being respectively 25·9 and 57·1 per cent as against 25·5 and 54·5 per cent in 1906-07.

The following statement shows **India's trade with each principal country** other than the United Kingdom, for which figures are given above, during each of the last three years in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling**:—

| | 1905-06 | | | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | Per cent | ₹ | £ | Per cent | ₹ | £ | Per cent |
| Germany | 19,10,95= | 12,740 | 7·2 | 25,56,29= | 17,042 | 9 | 25,45,37= | 16,969 | 8·3 |
| China | 23,26,63 | 15,511 | 8·7 | 20,53,49 | 13,690 | 7·2 | 17,36,00 | 11,573 | 5·7 |
| United States | 15,27,20 | 10,181 | 5·7 | 18,19,85 | 12,132 | 6·4 | 16,77,03 | 11,180 | 5·5 |
| Belgium | 10,99,16 | 7,328 | 4·1 | 11,56,24 | 7,708 | 4·1 | 14,45,42 | 9,636 | 4·7 |
| France | 11,80,48 | 7,536 | 4·3 | 12,71,61 | 8,477 | 4·5 | 13,59,21 | 9,061 | 4·4 |
| Japan | 11,23,59 | 7,491 | 4·2 | 8,72,24 | 5,815 | 3·1 | 11,04,89 | 7,366 | 3·6 |
| Straits Settlements | 8,99,48 | 5,996 | 3·4 | 9,43,48 | 6,290 | 3·3 | 10,09,18 | 6,728 | 3·3 |
| Austria-Hungary | 8,92,26 | 5,948 | 3·4 | 9,12,23 | 6,081 | 3·2 | 9,04,14 | 6,028 | 3 |
| Ceylon | 6,36,32 | 4,242 | 2·4 | 7,35,93 | 4,906 | 2·6 | 7,34,33 | 4,896 | 2·4 |
| Java | 2,83,02 | 1,887 | 1·1 | 3,43,35 | 2,289 | 1·2 | 6,95,44 | 4,636 | 2·3 |
| Italy | 5,97,65 | 3,984 | 2·3 | 6,83,21 | 4,555 | 2·4 | 6,79,27 | 4,528 | 2·2 |
| Australia | 2,93,71 | 1,958 | 1·1 | 3,08,80 | 2,059 | 1·1 | 4,00,97 | 2,673 | 1·3 |
| South America | 2,72,80 | 1,819 | 1 | 2,36,49 | 1,577 | ·8 | 3,64,08 | 2,427 | 1·2 |
| Mauritius | 3,26,04 | 2,174 | 1·2 | 3,47,75 | 2,318 | 1·2 | 3,55,84 | 2,372 | 1·1 |
| Holland | 2,38,13 | 1,588 | ·9 | 2,43,09 | 1,621 | ·9 | 3,25,37 | 2,169 | 1·1 |
| Turkey, Asiatic | 1,54,24 | 1,028 | ·6 | 1,66,95 | 1,113 | ·6 | 2,55,04 | 1,700 | ·8 |
| Egypt | 1,95,74 | 1,305 | ·7 | 2,16,13 | 1,441 | ·8 | 2,19,01 | 1,460 | ·7 |
| Persia | 1,37,05 | 914 | ·5 | 1,40,24 | 935 | ·5 | 1,63,29 | 1,089 | ·5 |
| Spain | 1,64,29 | 1,095 | ·6 | 1,67,78 | 1,118 | ·6 | 1,51,42 | 1,009 | ·5 |
| Aden | 1,75,69 | 1,171 | ·7 | 1,53,84 | 1,026 | ·5 | 1,45,44 | 970 | ·5 |
| Russia | 87,99 | 587 | ·3 | 86,05 | 574 | ·3 | 1,38,69 | 925 | ·4 |
| Arabia | 2,92,62 | 1,951 | 1·1 | 1,97,52 | 1,317 | ·7 | 1,32,71 | 885 | ·4 |

Until the returns are compiled according to the country of origin (imports) and country of final destination (exports), the figures can only be regarded as a rough and ready index of the trend of trade. It will be noticed that there was a marked contraction for reasons elsewhere explained in the trade with China and the United States. Japan, Belgium, Holland, Java and South America shew considerable advances. The share of China under exports fell from 10·9 to 8·6 per cent of the total export trade and the United States from 9 to 7·8 per cent, though under imports they gained 3 and 2 points respectively. Germany has advanced under imports and exports by 3 and 2 points respec-

tively. The shares of Belgium and Japan rose respectively from 4·1 and 4 to 5·3 and 5·1 per cent under exports, Java improved under imports from 2·7 to 4·5 per cent, but Austria-Hungary reduced her share of imports from 2·8 to 2 per cent. The other countries have not shewn any marked change.

Two **circular charts** have been inserted in the volume to illustrate changes in proportionate distribution of India's export and import trade during last quarter of a century, the difference in size of the two circles indicating the growth in the volume of that trade during the same period.

## TRADE ACCORDING TO PROVINCES

The figures of the **trade of each province** by sea with foreign countries stand thus in **lakhs of rupees** and **millions of pounds sterling** during the past two years :—

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ (lakhs) | £ (millions) | ₹ (lakhs) | £ (milions) | Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous year's figures |
| *Imported Merchandise* | | | | | |
| Bengal | 42,00·59 | = 28·0 | 52,59·01 | = 35·06 | +25·2 |
| E. Bengal and Assam | 37·90 | 0·25 | 52·42 | 0·35 | +38·3 |
| Bombay | 38,06·18 | 25·38 | 44,81·61 | 29·88 | +17·7 |
| Sind | 9,41·87 | 6·28 | 10,52 17 | 7·01 | +11·7 |
| Madras | 9,06·60 | 6·04 | 10,25·49 | 6·84 | +13·1 |
| Burma | 9,37·62 | 6·25 | 11,14·93 | 7·43 | +18·9 |
| Total | 108,30·76 | 72·2 | 129,85·63 | 86·57 | +20 |
| *Exported Merchandise (including re-exports)* | | | | | |
| Bengal | 78,90·32 | = 52·6 | 70,06·16 | = 46·71 | —11·2 |
| E. Bengal and Assam | 3,90·22 | 2·6 | 3,73·81 | 2·49 | —4·2 |
| Bombay | 45,33·45 | 30·22 | 48,80·22 | 32·53 | +7·6 |
| Sind | 15,80·23 | 10·54 | 18,08·54 | 12·06 | +14·5 |
| Madras | 17,41·61 | 11·61 | 18,72·22 | 12·48 | +7·5 |
| Burma | 15,20·77 | 10·14 | 17,77·81 | 11·85 | +16·9 |
| Total | 176,56·60 | 117·71 | 177,18·76 | 118·12 | + ·35 |

Taking imports and exports of merchandise together the proportionate share per cent of each province in the whole foreign trade of India stands as follows :—

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|
| Bengal | 42·4 | 39·9 |
| Bombay | 29·3 | 30·5 |
| Madras | 9·3 | 9·5 |
| Burma | 8·6 | 9·4 |
| Sind | 8·9 | 9·3 |
| E. Bengal and Assam | 1·5 | 1·4 |

The following tables indicate the leading features of the import trade and of the export trade (Indian produce only, excluding re-exports) of each province in **lakhs of rupees** and **thousands of pounds sterling** :—

## IMPORTS

| | | Bengal | | E. B. and Assam | | Bombay | | Sind | | Madras | | Burma | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cotton— | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Twist and Yarn | 1906-07 | 83·07 = | 553·8 | ·36 = | 2·4 | 92·05 = | 613·7 | 14·53 = | 96·9 | 99·44 = | 662·9 | 32·87 = | 219·1 |
| | 1907-08 | 1,10·32 | 735·5 | ·02 | ·1 | 1,18·41 | 789·4 | 13·21 | 88·1 | 1,05·99 | 706·6 | 21·37 | 142·5 |
| Manufactures | 1906-07 | 17,79·72 | 11,864·8 | 4·17 | 27·8 | 10,64·43 | 7,096·2 | 4,25·59 | 2,837·2 | 2,53·37 | 1,689·1 | 242·14 | 1,614·3 |
| | 1907-08 | 22,62·78 | 15,085·2 | 5·23 | 34·9 | 11,79·93 | 7,866·2 | 4,64·67 | 3,097·8 | 2,64·81 | 1,765·4 | 2,57·51 | 1,716·7 |
| Kerosene oil | 1906-07 | 71·23 | 474·9 | ·01 | ·06 | 58·33 | 388·9 | 30·80 | 205·3 | 26·55 | 177·0 | 9·28 | 61·9 |
| | 1907-08 | 94·91 | 632·7 | ..... | | 66·09 | 440·6 | 35·42 | 236·1 | 39·29 | 261·9 | 12·55 | 83·7 |
| Liquors | 1906-07 | 50·40 | 336 | ·13 | 0·9 | 58·17 | 387·8 | 20·42 | 136·1 | 22 56 | 150·4 | 34·00 | 226·7 |
| | 1907-08 | 59·08 | 393·9 | ·23 | 1·5 | 58·82 | 392·1 | 21·77 | 145·1 | 21·60 | 144 | 38·99 | 259·9 |
| Machinery and mill work | 1906-07 | 2,27·72 | 1,518·1 | 1 | 6·7 | 2,57·88 | 1,719·2 | 13·68 | 91·2 | 34·41 | 229·4 | 44·31 | 295·4 |
| | 1907-08 | 2,65·95 | 1,773 | 1·78 | 11·9 | 2,94·19 | 1,96 1·3 | 14·99 | 99·9 | 44·23 | 294·9 | 37·39 | 249·3 |
| Metals | 1906-07 | 4,71·11 | 3,140·7 | 11·23 | 74·9 | 3,14·55 | 2,097 | 48·19 | 321·3 | 72·98 | 486·5 | 85·92 | 572·8 |
| | 1907-08 | 591·20 | 3,941·3 | 15·31 | 102·1 | 3,79·01 | 2,526·7 | 70·60 | 470·7 | 1,06·64 | 710·9 | 1,56·38 | 1,042·5 |
| Railway materials | 1906-07 | 1,91·48 | 1,276·5 | 11·64 | 77·6 | 90·71 | 604·7 | 6·02 | 40·1 | 82·42 | 549·5 | 33·57 | 223·8 |
| | 1907-08 | 3,12·43 | 2,082·9 | 17·17 | 114·5 | 248·67 | 1,657·8 | 10·37 | 69·1 | 89·57 | 597·1 | 41·86 | 279·1 |
| Silk and woollen goods | 1906-07 | 54·61 | 364·1 | ·14 | ·9 | 2,10·41 | 1,402·7 | 37·38 | 249·2 | 5·46 | 36·4 | 79·72 | 531·5 |
| | 1907-08 | 83·41 | 556·1 | ..... | | 2,63·38 | 1,755·9 | 31·33 | 208·9 | 6·29 | 41·9 | 1,05·84 | 705·6 |
| Sugar | 1906-07 | 3,34·79 | 2,231·9 | ·02 | ·13 | 3,00·89 | 2,005·9 | 1,90·57 | 1,270·5 | 13·88 | 92·5 | 33·65 | 224·3 |
| | 1907-08 | 3,78·04 | 2,520·3 | ·10 | ·7 | 2,98·72 | 1,991·5 | 1,94·08 | 1,293·9 | 9·36 | 62·4 | 42·40 | 282·7 |

## EXPORTS

| | | Bengal | | E. B. and Assam | | Bombay | | Sind | | Madras | | Burma | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Coal | 1906-07 | 73·89 = | 492·6 | ... | | ·87 = | 5·8 | 1·34 = | 8·9 | ... | | ·04 = | ·3 |
| | 1907-08 | 58·92 | 392·8 | ... | | ·04 | ·3 | ... | | ... | | ... | |
| Coffee | 1906-07 | ·10 | ·7 | ... | | 2·59 | 17·3 | ·03 | ·2 | 96·91 = | 646·1 | ... | |
| | 1907-08 | ·06 | ·4 | ... | | ·87 | 5·8 | ·03 | ·2 | 1,10·49 | 736·6 | ... | |
| Cotton—Raw | 1906-07 | 1,50·02 | 1,000·1 | ... | | 15,64·69 | 10.431·3 | 2,33·45 | 1,556·3 | 2,21·43 | 1,476·2 | 28·25 | 188·3 |
| | 1907-08 | 88·33 | 588·9 | ·17 = | 1·1 | 17,86·39 | 11,909·3 | 3,26·95 | 2,179·7 | 3,39·10 | 2,260·7 | 29·30 | 195·3 |
| Twist and yarn | 1906-07 | 23·50 | 156·7 | ... | | 9,99·07 | 6,660·5 | ... | | 17·06 | 113·7 | ·01 | ·1 |
| | 1907-08 | 19·83 | 132·2 | ... | | 8,65·07 | 5,767·1 | ·01 | ·1 | 12·26 | 81·7 | ·13 | ·9 |
| Manufactures | 1906 07 | 3·18 | 21·2 | ... | | 90·39 | 602·6 | 1·64 | 10·9 | 81·94 | 54€·3 | ·02 | ·1 |
| | 1907-08 | 3·52 | 23·5 | ... | | 92·10 | 614 | ·82 | 5·5 | 82·85 | 552 3 | ·07 | ·5 |
| Hides and skins—Raw | 1906-07 | 8,09·23 | 5,394·9 | ... | | 32·93 | 219·5 | 99·64 | 664·3 | 93·51 | 623·4 | 54·09 | 360·6 |
| | 1907-08 | 5,56·22 | 3,708·1 | ... | | 13·63 | 90·9 | 39·05 | 260·3 | 58·43 | 389·5 | 37·84 | 252·3 |
| Dressed | 1906-07 | 3·25 | 21·7 | ... | | 71·11 | 474·1 | 10·35 | 69 | 3,60·30 | 2,402 | ·12 | ·8 |
| | 1907-08 | ·27 | 1·8 | ... | | 79·47 | 529·8 | 5·36 | 35·7 | 3,04·61 | 2,030·7 | ·26 | 1·7 |
| Indigo | 1906-07 | 45·07 | 300·5 | ... | | 4·59 | 30·6 | 2·66 | 17·7 | 17·71 | 118·1 | ... | |
| | 1907-08 | 38·63 | 257·5 | ... | | 6·23 | 41·5 | 2·48 | 16·5 | 16·39 | 109·3 | ... | |
| Jue—Raw | 1906-07 | 24,12·50 | 16,083·3 | 2,31·95 | 1,546·3 | ·03 | ·2 | ... | | 39·38 | 262·5 | ... | |
| | 1907-08 | 15,70·84 | 10,472·3 | 2,16·38 | 1,442·5 | ·08 | ·5 | ... | | 9·98 | 66·5 | ... | |
| Manufactures | 1906-07 | 15,62·09 | 10,413·9 | ... | | 5·91 | 39·4 | ·23 | 1·5 | ·09 | ·6 | ·02 | ·1 |
| | 1907-08 | 18,18·80 | 12,125·3 | ·09 | ·6 | 7·45 | 49·7 | ·33 | 2·2 | ·05 | ·3 | 14 | ·9 |
| Lac | 1906-07 | 3,45·92 | 2,306·1 | ... | | 1·04 | 6·9 | 1·33 | 8·9 | ·60 | 4 | 1·08 | 7·2 |
| | 1907-08 | 3,98·22 | 2,654·8 | ... | | ·79 | 5·3 | 5·17 | 34·5 | ·58 | 3·9 | 3·54 | 23·6 |
| Manganese ore | 1906-07 | 0·09 | 40·6 | ... | | 56·27 | 375·1 | ... | | 8·52 | 56·8 | ... | |
| | 1907-08 | 7·63 | 50·9 | .. | | 68·52 | 456·1 | ... | | 9·74 | 64·9 | ... | |

EXPORTS—*continued*

| | | Bengal | | E. B. and Assam | | Bombay | | Sind | | Madras | | Burma | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Mineral oil | 1906-07 | 2·83 | = 18·9 | ... | | ·02 | = ·1 | ·07 | = ·5 | ·07 | = ·5 | 11·74 | = 78·3 |
| | 1907-08 | 2·83 | 18·9 | ... | | ·01 | ·1 | . | | ·04 | ·3 | 22·20 | 148 |
| Opium | 1906-07 | 7,40·31 | 4,935·4 | .. | | 1,90·48 | 1,269·9 | ... | | . | | ... | |
| | 1907-08 | 6,38·86 | 4,259·1 | ... | | 2,28·39 | 1,522·6 | . | | .. | | . | |
| Rice | 1906-07 | 3,24·86 | 2,165·7 | ·01 | = ·1 | 36·57 | 243·8 | 81·47 | 543·1 | 2,16·88 | 1,445·9 | 11,93·16 | 7,954·4 |
| | 1907-08 | 2,23·09 | 1,487·3 | ·54 | 3·6 | 33·81 | 225·4 | 69·95 | 46·3 | 2,03·56 | 1,357·1 | 1,41·296 | 9,419·7 |
| Seeds | 1906-07 | 2,24·42 | 1,496·1 | .. | | 7,14·95 | 4,766·3 | 2,05·18 | 1,367·9 | 1,40·93 | 939·5 | 16·68 | 111·2 |
| | 1907-08 | 3,95·61 | 2,637·4 | ·01 | ·1 | 8,67·10 | 5,780·6 | 2,27·47 | 1,516·5 | 1,76·52 | 1,176·8 | 14·81 | 98·7 |
| Tea | 1906-07 | 7,36·97 | 4,913·1 | 1,57·69 | 1,051·3 | 8·15 | 54·3 | ·07 | ·5 | 82·81 | 552·1 | ·09 | ·6 |
| | 1907-08 | 7,67·04 | 5,113·6 | 1,60·98 | 1,073·2 | 11·41 | 76·1 | ·01 | ·1 | 90·44 | 602·9 | ·15 | 1 |
| Wheat and flour | 1906-07 | 9·67 | 64·5 | ... | | 72·12 | 480·8 | 7,02·01 | 4,680·1 | ·01 | ·1 | ·0 | 1·3 |
| | 1907-08 | 9·91 | 66·1 | ... | | 71·57 | 477·1 | 8,33·06 | 5,553·7 | ·01 | ·1 | ·01 | ·1 |
| Wood, mostly teak | 1906-07 | 1·48 | 9·9 | ... | | 2 11 | 14·1 | ·12 | ·8 | 13·51 | 90·1 | 5,·33 | 395·5 |
| | 1907-08 | 1·19 | 7·9 | ... | | 1·59 | 10·6 | ·30 | 2 | 14·93 | 99·5 | 59·8 | 398·7 |
| Wool—Raw | 1906-07 | 15·29 | 101·9 | ... | | 1,11·83 | 745·5 | 1,13·20 | 754·7 | 2·32 | 15·5 | ·01 | ·1 |
| | 1907-08 | 14·26 | 95·1 | ... | | 95·45 | 636·3 | 98·50 | 656·7 | 2·07 | 13·8 | ·06 | ·4 |

The exports from **Bengal** are chiefly jute, raw and manufactured, the latter being practically a monopoly of this province, tea, raw hides, opium, rice, seeds, lac, coal, and indigo.

From **Eastern Bengal and Assam** the principal exports are raw jute and tea, and from **Bombay** raw and manufactured cotton, Malwa opium, oilseeds, wheat, and raw wool.

The exports from **Sind** are raw cotton, hides, wool, seeds, and the bulk of foreign shipments of wheat.

**Madras** commands a very large share of the trade in tanned skins. Her other principal exports are raw cotton, coffee, rice, and oilseeds.

The export trade of **Burma** is almost confined to mineral oil, rice, teak wood, raw cotton, and hides.

The **bulk of the trade** (including treasure) **and shipping** (cargoes only) of India with foreign countries is confined to six principal ports and their proportionate share (per cent) is given below:—

| | Trade | | Shipping | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
| Calcutta | 40·8 | 37·8 | 22·9 | 20·1 |
| Bombay | 33·1 | 35·2 | 25·6 | 24·9 |
| Karachi | 8·2 | 8·6 | 10·2 | 10·5 |
| Rangoon | 6·7 | 7·3 | 12·5 | 12·3 |
| Madras | 4·7 | 4·6 | 5·9 | 6·8 |
| Chittagong | 1·4 | 1·2 | ·6 | ·7 |
| TOTAL | 94·9 | 94·7 | 77·7 | 75·3 |

The **actual value of the foreign trade of these ports** in merchandise only, imports and exports (including re-exports), was in **lakhs of rupees** and **thousands of pounds sterling**:—

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Calcutta | 1,20,48·6 = | 80,324 | 1,22,51·8 = | 81,679 |
| Bombay | 83,38·8 | 55,592 | 93,60·3 | 62,402 |
| Karachi | 25,22 | 16,814 | 28,60·7 | 19,071 |
| Rangoon | 21,24·3 | 14,162 | 24,99·6 | 16,664 |
| Madras | 14,32 | 9,547 | 14,85·5 | 9,903 |
| Chittagong | 4,28·1 | 2,854 | 4,26·2 | 2,841 |

## CUSTOMS REVENUE

The **tariff schedule** was revised in December 1907, and the new schedule came into force on the 1st January 1908.

The **valuations of cotton fabrics** for tariff purposes and the **list of cotton goods** recognised as piecegoods were also revised at the same time.

The rate of duty on ale, beer, and porter, cider and other fermented liquors was increased from one to two annas per gallon with effect from the 3rd January 1908, and the following modifications in Customs procedure were effected :—

1. Prohibition of importation of quinine which has been coloured *pink* (the colour of the quinine issued from Government factories).

2. Prohibition of importation of "novocain" by post or by persons not specially authorised by a Local Government to import it.

3. Exemption from duty of re-imported commercial samples not intended for sale.

4. Prohibition of exports of Mhowa flowers to the Portuguese possessions in India.

A **manual** was issued just after the close of the year with the object of standardising the procedure at the various Customs ports with regard to the administration of the **Merchandise Marks Act.**

The **gross revenue** from imports (excluding salt, which is not credited as a Customs receipt) rose from ₹5,08,58,776 (£3,390,585) to ₹6,03,37,737 (£4,022,516). Refunds and drawbacks amounted to ₹9,41,947 (£62,796) as against ₹10,79,227 (£71,948) in the previous year. The **net revenue**, therefore, increased from ₹4,97,79,549 (£3,318,637) to ₹5,93,95,790 (£3,959,719). The rates of increase were as follows: 18·6 per cent in gross revenue and 19·3 per cent in net revenue. There was a decrease of 12·7 per cent in refunds and drawbacks.

The following statement shows the revenue derived in the last three years from the principal dutiable articles :—

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Arms Ammunition* | 4,10,421 | = 27,361 | 4,45,734 | = 29,716 | 5,55,085 | = 37,006 |
| *Articles of food and drink—* | | | | | | |
| Fruits and vegetables | 4,12,748 | 27,517 | 3,99,975 | 26,665 | 5,33,469 | 35,565 |
| Spirits | 90,31,698 | 602,113 | 77,97,770 | 519,851 | 92,65,853 | 617,724 |
| Wines | 3,96,629 | 26,442 | 3,83,571 | 25,571 | 3,99,539 | 26,636 |
| Sugar | 39,93,201 | 266,213 | 43,82,637 | 292,176 | 44,76,082 | 298,405 |
| Provisions | 6,86,055 | 45,737 | 7,41,339 | 49,423 | 8,58,109 | 57,207 |
| Spices | 5,61,455 | 37,430 | 6,37,860 | 42,524 | 8,00,313 | 53,354 |
| *Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, and dyes—* | | | | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, and narcotics | 6,01,821 | 40,121 | 6,34,661 | 42,311 | 8,05,162 | 53,677 |
| Chemicals | 3,67,053 | 24,470 | 3,94,573 | 26,305 | 4,69,420 | 31,295 |
| Dyes and tans | 4,79,594 | 31,973 | 4,93,015 | 32,868 | 5,70,253 | 38,017 |
| *Metals and articles made of metals—* | | | | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 12,49,752 | 83,317 | 15,42,210 | 102,814 | 17,93,308 | 119,554 |
| Copper and brass | 7,16,350 | 47,757 | 6,53,943 | 43,596 | 11,18,312 | 74,554 |
| Iron and steel | 7,27,195 | 48,480 | 8,14,554 | 54,304 | 10,46,998 | 69,800 |
| Silver | 29,63,850 | 195,590 | 40,79,319 | 271,955 | 51,70,203 | 344,680 |
| *Oils—* | | | | | | |
| Petroleum | 36,64,723 | 244,315 | 37,77,026 | 251,802 | 44,63,463 | 297,565 |
| *Manufactures of cotton—* | | | | | | |
| Piecegoods: grey (unbleached) | 64,92,338 | 432,823 | 64,10,439 | 427,363 | 66,97,608 | 446,507 |
| Piecegoods: white (bleached) | 29,36,490 | 195,766 | 25,73,117 | 171,541 | 40,77,897 | 271,860 |
| Piecegoods: coloured | 33,19,833 | 221,322 | 33,48,458 | 223,230 | 38,04,353 | 253,624 |
| Hosiery and all other manufactured cotton goods | 5,40,302 | 36,020 | 5,81,492 | 38,766 | 6,09,083 | 40,605 |

| | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Other articles, numanufactured and manufactured—* | | | | | | |
| Apparel . . | 10,39,580= | 69,305 | 9,31,560= | 62,104 | 11,16,165= | 74,411 |
| Carriages (including Motor cars and cycles) . . | 3,77,414 | 25,161 | 4,70,107 | 31,340 | 5,97,188 | 39,812 |
| Instruments, apparatus, and appliances | 4,50,596 | 30,040 | 6,09,645 | 40,643 | 6,32,034 | 42,136 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 3,85,706 | 25,714 | 4,50,116 | 30,008 | 5,60,147 | 37,343 |
| Silk, and articles made of silk . . . | 13,14,752 | 87,650 | 11,92,983 | 79,532 | 15,53,361 | 103,557 |
| Wood and timber, and articles made of wood . . . | 4,82,136 | 32,142 | 4,11,029 | 27,402 | 4,27,053 | 28,470 |
| Woollen goods . | 12,10,741 | 80,716 | 10,23,689 | 68,246 | 13,89,239 | 92,616 |

The **gross revenue** accounted for by the twenty-six articles specified above is ₹537·9 lakhs (£3,586,000) or 89·1 per cent of the total, which shows that although the Indian tariff comprises many dutiable articles, there are comparatively few on which a considerable revenue is levied. Spirituous liquor, petroleum, sugar, metals (including silver), and cotton piecegoods by themselves constitute 70 per cent of the total.

The total revenue realised from a **3½ per cent** *ad valorem* **duty on cotton goods** imported was ₹151·89 lakhs (£1,012,600) as against ₹129·14 lakhs (£860,900) in the previous year. This is equal to 25·2 per cent of the whole Customs revenue, while the gross receipts on account of **Excise duty on cotton fabrics** of Indian manufacture amounted to ₹34·01 lakhs (£226,700) as against ₹29·01 lakhs (£193,400) in 1906-07. This, however, falls outside of Customs revenue proper.

The **export tariff schedule** is limited to rice and rice-flour, the duty on which is levied at the rate of three annas per maund of 82⅔ lbs. The net duly realised from this source in 1907-08 was ₹99·74 lakhs (£664,900) against ₹102·27 lakhs (£681,800) in the previous year, and marks a fall of ₹2·53 lakhs (£16,900) or 2·5 per cent.

The yield of the voluntary **Tea Cess** which is collected through Customs agency is dealt with elsewhere.

## GOLD AND SILVER

The value of the Imports, Exports, and Absorption of **Gold** in the last five years, in **thousands of Rupees and of pounds sterling,** was as follows :—

| | Imports | | Exports | | | | Absorption | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Production | | Re-exports | | | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 . . | 20,14,79= | 13,432 | 3,51,30 | =2,342 | 6,70,32 | =4,469 | 13,44,47 | =8,963 |
| 1904-05 . . | 21,81,20 | 14,541 | 3,55,59 | 2,371 | 8,55,02 | 5,700 | 13,26,18 | 8,841 |
| 1905-06 . . | 14,74,90 | 9,832 | 3,58,76 | 2,392 | 10,70,34 | 7,135 | 4,04,56 | 2,697 |
| 1906-07 . . | 18,53,34 | 12,355 | 3,23,37 | 2,156 | 44,36 | 295 | 18,08,98 | 12,060 |
| 1907-08 . . | 20,75,26 | 13,835 | 3,14,02 | 2,093 | 24,47 | 163 | 20,50,79 | 13,672 |

India's absorption of gold is arrived at by deducting the re-exports from the imports, for all the gold produced in Indian mines is shipped to England for assay and does not swell the stocks of metal, or enter into commercial consideration in this country. The increase in the net imports of gold during the past two years is remarkable.

In the year under review the net imports of gold amounted to ₹1,736·77 lakhs (£11,578,000) as compared with ₹1,485·61 lakhs (£9,904,000), the record figures of the previous year. To this total sovereigns and half sovereigns contributed 1,642,150 oz, valued at ₹965·09 lakhs (£ 6,434,000). The imports of gold on Government account in 1907-08 amounted to ₹1,80,375 (£12,025), and there was no export of gold on Government account in the year under review.

The value of the Imports, Exports, and Net imports of **silver** during the last five years was as follows, **the unit being 1,000:—**

| | Imports | | Exports | | Net-Imports | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 | 18,37,82 | = 12,252 | 4,72,55 | = 3,150 | 13,65,27 | = 9,102 |
| 1904-05 | 17,69,62 | 11,797 | 4,43,47 | 2,956 | 13,26,15 | 8,841 |
| 1905-06 | 16,90,20 | 11,268 | 1,17,90 | 786 | 15,72,30 | 10,482 |
| 1906-07 | 26,04,64 | 17,364 | 2,04,09 | 1,360 | 24,00,55 | 16,004 |
| 1907-08 | 21,53,19 | 14,355 | 2,06,36 | 1,376 | 19,46,83 | 12,979 |

India is not a silver-producing country, and therefore the absorption of the metal is represented by the difference between the imports and exports.

In 1906-07 the imports reached the unprecedented level of ₹2,604·64 lakhs (17·36 millions sterling), but in 1907-08 they fell to ₹2,153·19 lakhs (14·35 millions sterling) which is yet much in advance of the totals for 1905-06 and earlier years. The exports slightly increased but are far below the figures for 1903-04 and 1904-05, consisting chiefly of Government rupees for which Ceylon is the largest individual market.

The **silver coinage** struck in the Indian mints during the last five years has been, **the unit being 1,000:—**

| | ₹ | £ | Oz (approximate) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 | 16,53,11 | = 11,021 | 61,992 |
| 1904-05 | 11,37,04 | 7,580 | 42,639 |
| 1905-06 | 20,00,14 | 13,334 | 75,005 |
| 1906-07 | 26,08,57 | 17,390 | 97,822 |
| 1907-08 | 18,11,57 | 12,077 | 67,934 |

The average price of silver in London in 1907 was $30\frac{8}{16}d$ but the rate was subject to violent fluctuations, for while in August it reached $32\frac{8}{16}d$ per oz, it fell in December to $24\frac{1}{2}d$.

## BALANCE OF TRADE

The figures appended shew the **excess of exports over imports,** including merchandise and treasure, by sea in each of the last five years, **the unit being 1,000:—**

| | Including Government transactions | | Excluding Government transactions | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 | 37,34,04 | = 24,894 | 44,24,02 | = 29,493 |
| 1904-05 | 30,34,19 | 20,228 | 35,89,71 | 23,931 |
| 1905-06 | 33,54,08 | 22,360 | 44,16,24 | 29,441 |
| 1906-07 | 20,57,02 | 13,713 | 46,77,95 | 31,180 |
| 1907-08 | 3,98,04 | 2,654 | 19,95,71 | 13,305 |
| Average of 5 years | 25,15,47 | 16,770 | 38,20,55 | 25,470 |

In the same years the **drawings of the Council Bills** by the Secretary of State, including those on account of the Gold Standard Reserve, but deducting sterling bills sold in India, have been as follows **in thousands** :—

| | £ | Exchange *d* | ₹ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 . . . . | 23,859 | 16·049 | 35,67,95 |
| 1904-05 . . . . | 24,426 | 16·045 | 36,53,57 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 31,567 | 16·043 | 47,22,43 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 33,432 | 16·084 | 49,88,75 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 15,307 | 16·029 | 22,91,90 |
| Average of 5 years . | 25,718 | | 38,44,92 |

In the five year ending 1907-08, the average excess of exports over imports *including Government transactions* was ₹2,515·47 lakhs (£16,769,800), representing 14·2 per cent of the average value of exports. In the same period the average drawings of the Secretary of State, as above defined, were ₹3,844·92 lakhs (£25,632,800), being 21·7 per cent of the average value of exports. It exceeds the average excess of exports over imports by ₹1,329·45 lakhs (£8,863,000).

*Excluding Government transactions* the average excess of exports over imports was ₹3,820·55 lakhs (£25,470,000) equal to 22·2 per cent of the average value of exports. This excess is greater by ₹1,305·08 lakhs (£8,700,500) than the excess found when Government transactions are included. But it falls short of the average amount of drawings, as calculated above, by ₹24·37 lakhs (£162,500), *i. e.*, by ·64 per cent of the average excess.

The trade figures given above are to this extent incomplete. They relate only to the trade of British Indian ports, they do not include either the absolutely indeterminable volume of private remittances to and from India, or the not inconsiderable value of pearls and precious stones re-exported (chiefly from Bombay) through the medium of the post office.

There is said to be a fairly large trade carried on chiefly by native craft from ports in Native States on the West Coast of India with the Persian Gulf, Arabia, and Ceylon, which is only in part registered and tabulated, and it is not possible to gauge how far the trade returns of the French and Portuguese Settlements are to be considered exhaustive. Some idea of the volume of all this additional trade may be gathered from the appended figures as far as available (**in lakhs of rupees and of thousands sterling**)—

| | 1905-06 | | | | 1906-07 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Import | | Export | | Import | | Export | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| French Settlements . . | 17·47 | 116 | 97·35 | 649 | 14·20 | 95 | 121·19 | 808 |
| Portuguese do . . | 3·10 | 21 | 3·69 | 25 | 2·27 | 15 | 9·14 | 61 |
| Travancore . . . | 31·21 | 208 | 12 96 | 86 | 27·53 | 183 | 12·56 | 84 |
| Baroda . . . . | 16·68 | 111 | 8·58 | 57 | | (*a*) | | |
| Kathiawar . . . | 9·89 | 66 | 3·61 | 24 | 9·33 | 62 | 4·76 | 32 |

(*a*) Report not yet received

## BANK RATES AND EXCHANGE

The Bank rate in the three Presidency towns was 8 per cent at the beginning of April, but money very soon became cheaper, and the rate fell steadily until September—when there was a sharp rise, particularly in Calcutta, and a further sharp rise in January brought the rate up to 9 per cent. both in Calcutta and Bombay—which continued until the middle of March when it fell again to 7 per cent. In Madras 9 per cent was not reached until February but there was no change thereafter up to the close of the year.

Exchange fell in November below the parity of R15 to the £ sterling for the first time since May 1905 (save for a few days in April 1906) and was quoted at 1*s* $3\frac{7}{8}d$ on demand on the 31st March. The lowest rate reached was 1*s* $3\frac{11}{16}d$ on the 25th November.

The fluctuations of the money market will be understood from the **discount rates** month by month of the Presidency Banks, and the **rates of Exchange** on demand bills, appended below :—

| | Bank of | | | Rates of Exchange | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal Per cent | Bombay Per cent | Madras Per cent | Highest *s. d.* | Lowest *s. d.* |
| 1907— | | | | | |
| April | 8-7 | 8 | 8 | 1 $4\frac{3}{16}$ | 1 $4\frac{1}{8}$ |
| May | 6-5 | 7-6 | 7-6 | 1 $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 $4\frac{1}{16}$ |
| June | 5 | 7-6-5 | 6 | 1 $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 $4\frac{3}{32}$ |
| July | 5-4-3 | 5-4 | 5-4 | 1 $4\frac{3}{32}$ | 1 $4\frac{1}{32}$ |
| August | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 $4\frac{3}{64}$ | 1 4 |
| September | 3-4-5 | 3-4 | 4 | 1 $4\frac{3}{64}$ | 1 4 |
| October | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 $4\frac{1}{16}$ | 1 4 |
| November | 5-6 | 4-5 | 4-5 | 1 $4\frac{1}{32}$ | 1 $3\frac{11}{16}$ |
| December | 6 | 5-6 | 6-7 | 1 4 | 1 $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| 1908— | | | | | |
| January | 6-7-8-9 | 7-8-9 | 7-8 | 1 4 | 1 $3\frac{15}{16}$ |
| February | 9 | 9 | 8-9 | 1 $3\frac{61}{64}$ | 1 $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| March | 9-8-7 | 9-8-7 | 9 | 1 $3\frac{15}{16}$ | 1 $3\frac{27}{32}$ |

## SHIPPING

While the net increase in the value of imports and exports of merchandise by sea amounted to 7·8 per cent of the total for the previous year, there was an increase of 5 per cent in the tonnage of shipping that entered and cleared for Indian ports. The following statement gives the numbers and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels with cargoes and in ballast which entered from and cleared to all countries :

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 | 9,530 | 12,559,260 | 1,318 |
| 1904-05 | 9,798 | 13,881,336 | 1,417 |
| 1905-06 | 9,269 | 12,598,321 | 1,359 |
| 1906-07 | 9,329 | 13,775,436 | 1,477 |
| 1907-08 | 9,312 | 14,239,180 | 1,529 |

Of these 98 per cent represented steam tonnage. The total number of **steamers** that entered and cleared was 5,928 with an aggregate burden of 13,957,229 tons as against 5,944 and 13,469,417 tons in the previous year. The average tonnage per steamer increased from 2,266 to 2,354 tons, while the average tonnage per **sailing ship** decreased from 90 to 83 tons.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the chief ports from and to foreign countries in the past two years are given below :—

| Chief Port | 1906-07 | | | | | 1907-08 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Steam | | Sailing | | Percentage of total tonnage | Steam | | Sailing | | Percentage of total tonnage. |
| | No. | Tons | No. | Tons | | No. | Tons | No. | Tons | |
| Calcutta . | 1,189 | 3,270,635 | 39 | 28,197 | 23·95 | 1,105 | 3,098,454 | 24 | 12,129 | 21·84 |
| Bombay . | 1,233 | 3,204,087 | 393 | 42,692 | 23·57 | 1,212 | 3,286,733 | 343 | 36,755 | 23·34 |
| Rangoon . | 736 | 1,725,008 | 17 | 23,714 | 12·7 | 701 | 1,689,762 | 13 | 17,705 | 11·99 |
| Karachi . | 610 | 1,332,560 | 365 | 31,383 | 9·9 | 692 | 1,510,726 | 491 | 36,262 | 10·86 |
| Madras . | 274 | 710,941 | 6 | 524 | 5·16 | 300 | 847,375 | 3 | 206 | 5·95 |
| Chittagong | 37 | 101,406 | 2 | 307 | ·74 | 44 | 119,772 | ... | ... | ·84 |
| Total . | 4,079 | 10,344,637 | 822 | 126,817 | 76·02 | 4,054 | 10,552,822 | 874 | 103,057 | 74·82 |

The entries from and clearances to **the United Kingdom** were 3,119,233 tons as against 3,121,861 tons in 1906-07, and this reduced quantity represented 21·9 per cent in place of 22·7 per cent of the total tonnage.

Entries from and clearances to **British Possessions** other than the United Kingdom decreased from 5,650,916 to 5,603,697 tons which represent 39·3 per cent of the total, as against 41 per cent in the previous year. The tonnage from and to the **British Empire**, therefore, amounted to 61·3 per cent of the whole in place of 63·7 per cent in 1906-07.

The tonnage under the **British flag** registered under the English Merchant Shipping Act was nearly 75·8 per cent and including the Indian register 80·4 per cent.

The number of vessels under **foreign flags** which entered and left Indian ports was 1,065 with an aggregate burden of 2,620,675 tons as against 1,104 in 1906-07 with an aggregate of 2,541,982 tons.

The total number of vessels under the principal flags are given below :—

| | 1903-04 | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| British . . | 4,772 | 5,633 | 4,838 | 4,918 | 4,785 |
| German . . | 393 | 339 | 387 | 371 | 375 |
| Norwegian . . | 173 | 141 | 174 | 195 | 188 |
| Austro-Hungarian | 134 | 156 | 162 | 159 | 157 |
| Japanese . . | 37 | ... | 2 | 83 | 123 |
| Italian . . | 63 | 74 | 85 | 77 | 79 |
| French . . | 143 | 94 | 105 | 67 | 61 |

## FREIGHTS

Freights in India were generally lower during 1907-08 than they had been in 1906-07. The weakness was contributed to by the sudden collapse of the export trade in November but the fall was not confined to Eastern markets only, and it seems that the world's oversea carrying capacity has increased out of proportion to the additional volume of merchandise requiring to be carried. The tendency to avoid entrepôts is becoming more marked and India benefited from more long-voyage carriage of imports with a margin of profit that weakened homeward rates. The freights for Bombay cotton and Karachi wheat to Liverpool were abnormally low at the close of the year under review. The following statement gives minimum quotations for typical rates of freight from the principal Indian ports to London in March of each of the last five years :

| | | Rates per ship ton* | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1904 | 1905 | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 |
| | | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| Calcutta | Rice . . . | 0 17 6 | 1 0 0 | 0 15 0 | 0 17 6 | 0 15 0 |
| | Wheat . . . | 0 17 6 | 1 0 0 | 0 15 0 | 0 17 6 | 0 15 0 |
| | Jute . . . | 1 0 0 | 1 2 6 | 0 17 6 | 1 0 0 | 0 17 6 |
| | Linseed . . . | 1 0 0 | 1 2 6 | 0 17 6 | 1 0 0 | 0 17 6 |
| | Tea . . . | 1 11 3 | 1 16 3 | 1 13 9 | 1 15 0 | 1 12 6 |
| Bombay: | Wheat and seeds . | 0 16 0 | 0 15 0 | 0 13 6 | 0 15 0 | 0 13 0 |
| | Cotton (to Liverpool) | 0 16 6 | 0 15 6 | 0 14 6 | 0 15 0 | 0 12 0 |
| Karachi: | Wheat (to Liverpool) | 0 16 0 | 0 15 6 | 0 14 0 | 0 15 0 | 0 10 0 |

## FRONTIER TRADE

The bulk of India's foreign trade is and always must be sea-borne, but the value of the trade across her land frontiers, though it represents only 4·3 per cent of the whole, is characterised by steady progress to which improved method of registration has perhaps partly contributed. The valuation of frontier trade, however, continues difficult and defective, and as regards treasure the figures are so notoriously unreliable that it is unsafe to base any conclusions upon them. Subject to all these reservations, however, the total volume of trade is sufficiently considerable and varied to merit detailed analysis, and the grand total of imports and exports (merchandise and treasure) was ₹15·54 crores (£10,360,000) in 1907-08, as against ₹14·14 crores (£9,426,000) being the figures for 1906-07 *minus* those for Kashmir, Hill Tipperah, and Manipur—which have now for the first time been correctly treated as Cis-frontier States. Similar deductions have been made in the totals for previous years in the table below so as to make the figures really comparable :—

| | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 . . . . | 10,98,81,553 | = 7,325,437 |
| 1904-05 . . . . | 12,16,15,211 | 8,107,681 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 13,72,04,999 | 9,147,000 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 14,13,90,673 | 9,426,045 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 15,54,10,102 | 10,360,673 |

The relative importance of the various articles of trade in the commerce

*In Calcutta 50 cub. ft., in Bombay and Karachi 40 cub. ft.

of India with trans-frontier countries is shown below. The values are stated in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling**:

| | *Imports* | | | | | *Exports* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Cattle | 38,21 = | 255 | 33,23 = | 222 | Cotton | 9,17 = | 61 | 8,60 = | 57 |
| Other animals | 24,51 | 163 | 21,68 | 145 | Cotton yarn— | | | | |
| Drugs and medicines (including *charas*) | 12,61 | 84 | 20,58 | 137 | Foreign | 34,35 | 229 | 36,11 | 241 |
| Fibrous products (chiefly jute) | 23,70 | 158 | 25,97 | 173 | Indian | 31,40 | 209 | 34,07 | 227 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 46,77 | 312 | 44,52 | 297 | Cotton goods— | | | | |
| Grain and pulse (chiefly rice) | 1,49,96 | 1,000 | 2,05,16 | 1,368 | Foreign | 1,65,63 | 1,104 | 1,85,70 | 1,238 |
| Hides and skins | 31,03 | 207 | 33,66 | 224 | Indian | 52,65 | 351 | 52,57 | 350 |
| Ghi (clarified butter) | 54,50 | 363 | 57,40 | 383 | Grain and pulse | 13,64 | 91 | 14,17 | 94 |
| Pickled tea | 22,07 | 147 | 23,87 | 159 | Metals (mainly brass, copper, and iron) | 27,79 | 185 | 27,44 | 183 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rape seed) | 37,33 | 249 | 44,75 | 298 | Oils | 14,32 | 95 | 17,13 | 114 |
| Silk | 8,93 | 60 | 10,95 | 73 | Provisions | 20,34 | 136 | 26,83 | 179 |
| Spices | 10,98 | 73 | 13,99 | 93 | Salt | 23,63 | 158 | 23,53 | 157 |
| Wood and timber (chiefly teak) | 72,40 | 483 | 59,78 | 398 | Silk goods | 9,36 | 62 | 14,07 | 94 |
| Wool | 57,34 | 382 | 56,54 | 377 | Spices | 21,55 | 144 | 22,15 | 148 |
| Woollen goods | 1,89 | 13 | 2,45 | 16 | Sugar | 19,49 | 130 | 19,69 | 131 |
| | | | | | Tea | 6,74 | 45 | 7,20 | 48 |
| | | | | | Tobacco | 9,38 | 63 | 11,13 | 74 |

The measure in which the various provinces participated in the total of this commerce is shown below in **thousands of rupees** and **of pounds sterling**:

| | 1903-04 | | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Sind and British Baluchistan | 88,47 = | 590 | 1,04,90 = | 699 | 1,12,02 = | 747 | 1,41,30 = | 942 | 1,53,96 = | 1,026 |
| North-West Frontier Province | 1,84,36 | 1,229 | 2,35,00 | 1,567 | 2,30,61 | 1,537 | 2,52,03 | 1,680 | 2,68,05 | 1,787 |
| Panjab | 13,21 | 88 | 17,15 | 114 | 10,69 | 71 | 11,04 | 74 | 13,77 | 92 |
| United Provinces of Agra and Oudh | 1,70,52 | 1,137 | 1,64,75 | 1,098 | 1,94,65 | 1,298 | 1,81,29 | 1,209 | 1,87,82 | 1,252 |
| Bengal | 2,67,02 | 1,780 | 2,86,04 | 1,907 | 3,81,44 | 2,543 | 3,23,73 | 2,158 | 3,88,91 | 2,593 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam | 5,32 | 35 | 4,89 | 33 | 5,09 | 34 | 16,63 | 111 | 7,68 | 51 |
| Burma | 3,69,93 | 2,466 | 4,03,42 | 2,689 | 4,37,55 | 2,917 | 4,87,88 | 3,253 | 5,33,90 | 3,559 |

In India proper the railway nowhere extends beyond the frontier, but a large portion of the Kandahar trade, particularly in wool, is carried to and from stations very close to the border, and has, therefore, the benefit of the greater accuracy of registration as railborne traffic.

The geographical distribution of trade, **merchandise only**, with the principal countries has, during the last three years, been as follows in **thousands of rupees** and **of pounds sterling**: —

| | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| North-Western Frontier | Afghanistan— | | | | | | |
| | Southern and Western | 85,63 = | 571 | 1,15,78 = | 772 | 1,17,11 = | 781 |
| | Northern and Eastern | 83,43 | 556 | 93,74 | 625 | 98,62 | 657 |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur | 1,02,96 | 686 | 1,19,03 | 793 | 1,29,53 | 863 |
| | Persia | 7,46 | 50 | 5,39 | 36 | 9,91 | 66 |
| | Ladakh | 6,86 | 46 | 7,67 | 51 | 11,06 | 74 |
| North and North-Eastern Frontier | Tibet | 37,52 | 250 | 35,06 | 234 | 40,21 | 268 |
| | Nepal | 4,87,15 | 3,248 | 4,35,70 | 2,905 | 4,93,08 | 3,287 |
| | Sikkim and Bhutan | 23,15 | 154 | 25,96 | 173 | 22,17 | 148 |
| Eastern Frontier | Western China | 50,26 | 335 | 53,42 | 356 | 57,97 | 386 |
| | North Shan States | 1,01,90 | 679 | 1,09,38 | 729 | 1,45,65 | 971 |
| | South Shan States | 99,87 | 666 | 1,05,29 | 702 | 1,20,96 | 806 |
| | Karenni | 31,13 | 207 | 24,91 | 166 | 20,79 | 139 |
| | North Siam | 31,67 | 211 | 33,50 | 223 | 37,85 | 252 |

## NORTH-WESTERN FRONTIER

**Afghanistan**—One result of the visit of His Majesty the Amir to India has been increased trade exchanges between the two countries, and the figures have risen from ₹169·06 lakhs (£1,127,067) in 1905-06 to ₹209·52 lakhs (£1,396,800) in 1906-07 and to ₹215·73 lakhs (£1,438,200) in 1907-08. Of these exports represent 55 per cent and imports 45 per cent of the total. From **Kabul** have come increased quantities of **fruits and nuts,** the quality of which has markedly improved, **drugs and medicines,** chiefly assafœtida, **ghi** (clarified butter), and **animals**. There was a fall in the exports of **cotton piecegoods,** but the value of **cotton yarns,** chiefly foreign, has slightly increased. The decline in **tea** continued, but the proportion of Indian tea improved at the expense of foreign tea, though the average declared values were as. 7·3 ($7\frac{3}{10}d.$) and as. 11·3 ($11\frac{3}{10}d.$) per lb respectively. There was a slight advance in the total for **leather goods** and the effect of indigenous competition has not yet been felt.

From **Kandahar** more than half the value of imports is accounted for by **wool**, though there was a percentage decline of 14; while under **fruits and nuts** and **ghi** there were marked decreases. Exports shew continued expansion, particularly under the head of **foreign piece goods.**

The figures for 1906-07 and 1907-08 for Kabul and Kandahar (principal articles only) are shewn for purposes of comparison below :—

| Imports from | 1906-07 ₹ | 1906-07 £ | 1907-08 ₹ | 1907-08 £ | Increase (+) or decrease (—) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Kabul*— | | | | | |
| Animals, living (for sale) | 1,44,917 = | 9,661 | 1,82,888 = | 12,192 | +26·2 |
| Drugs and medicines | 2,76,631 | 18,442 | 3,27,805 | 21,854 | +18·5 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 10,97,063 | 73,138 | 11,80,775 | 78,718 | + 7·6 |
| Hides and skins | 1,75,145 | 11,676 | 4,00,963 | 26,731 | +128·9 |
| Ghi | 2,56,099 | 17,073 | 3,55,052 | 23,670 | +38·6 |
| Raw wool | 1,52,801 | 10,187 | 1,64,335 | 10,956 | + 7·5 |
| *Kandahar*— | | | | | |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 22,70,001 | 151,333 | 16,87,306 | 112,487 | —25·7 |
| Grain and pulse | 1,22,498 | 8,167 | 2,32,305 | 15,487 | +89·6 |
| Ghi | 2,35,390 | 15,693 | 2,28,632 | 15,242 | — 2·8 |
| Raw wool | 39,05,637 | 260,376 | 33,90,513 | 226,034 | +13·2 |
| Exports to | | | | | |
| *Kabul*— | | | | | |
| Cotton yarn— | | | | | |
| Foreign | 3,16,943 = | 21,129 | 3,12,515 = | 20,834 | — 1·4 |
| Indian | 88,524 | 5,902 | 1,43,319 | 9,555 | +61·9 |
| Cotton goods— | | | | | |
| Foreign | 33,13,431 | 220,895 | 31,75,820 | 211,721 | — 4·1 |
| Indian | 9,63,919 | 64,261 | 8,68,743 | 57,916 | — 9·8 |
| Metals and manufactures of metals | 2,95,224 | 19,682 | 2,28,279 | 15,219 | — 22·6 |
| Sugar | 3,06,550 | 20,437 | 2,37,178 | 15,812 | — 22·6 |
| Tea— | | | | | |
| Indian | 1,16,101 | 7,740 | 2,07,434 | 13,829 | +104·5 |
| Foreign | 2,12,832 | 14,189 | 1,68,328 | 11,222 | —20·9 |
| *Kandahar*— | | | | | |
| Cotton goods— | | | | | |
| Foreign | 18,80,277 | 125,352 | 22,39,535 | 149,302 | +19 |
| Indian | 10,98,227 | 73,215 | 10,04,343 | 66,956 | —8·5 |
| Leather and leather goods | 2,27,489 | 15,166 | 2,77,169 | 18,478 | +21·8 |
| Sugar | 2,28,955 | 15,264 | 2,60,649 | 17,377 | +13·8 |

**Dir, Swat, and Bajaur**—There was a percentage increase of 14 in the imports from these countries, bringing the total to ₹58·54 lakhs (£390,000). This

was chiefly due to an increase of over 90 per cent in the import of **grain and pulse**, due no doubt to the scarcity and prevalence of high prices in Northern India. The value of this trade has quadrupled in two years and is now valued at nearly ₹20 lakhs (£133,000). **Husked and unhusked rice** in the proportion of five to two accounted for two-thirds of this total. **Hides and Skins** increased from ₹5 to 8 lakhs (£33,300 to 53,300), but there was a contraction of 39 per cent in the receipts of **timber.** The increase in exports was less marked but rose from ₹67·81 lakhs (£452,000) to ₹70·99 lakhs (£473,000).

The trade of **Ladakh** is distinguished from that of Kashmir, of which it is a tributary state, and is of importance out of proportion to its volume as the junction for exchanges with Yarkand and Kashgar for India and Western Tibet. The total of ₹11·06 lakhs (£73,700) marks an advance of 44 per cent on the figures of the previous year, entirely accounted for by improved imports, chiefly of **charas.** This preparation of the hemp plant accounts for nearly 86 per cent of the total, and the quantities and values imported increased from 1,199 cwts worth ₹4,56,960 (£30,464) in 1906-07 to 1,540 cwts worth ₹8,38,400, (£55,893) in 1907-08. The imports of **raw silk** show improvement, but are still below the figures of 1905-06. **Cotton piece-goods,** as elsewhere on the frontier, form the bulk of the exports, though there was a quantitative decline of 25 per cent, and a decline in value of 33 per cent, as compared with the previous year.

## NORTH AND NORTH-EASTERN FRONTIER

**Nepal**—The trade with Nepal greatly exceeds in volume that with any other trans-frontier State. The principal articles of import and export and their values for the past two years are shown in the table below :—

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Imports to India—* | | | | |
| Rice | 63,05,126 = | 420,342 | 85,32,788 = | 568,852 |
| Paddy | 46,25,745 | 308,383 | 62,50,294 | 416,686 |
| Wheat | 2,83,810 | 18,921 | 2,11,438 | 14,096 |
| Cattle | 26,74,473 | 178,298 | 20,64,081 | 137,605 |
| Linseed | 8,80,708 | 58,714 | 8,95,869 | 59,725 |
| Rape and mustard | 25,23,392 | 168,226 | 26,38,315 | 175,888 |
| Ghi | 22,09,334 | 147,289 | 26,27,476 | 175,165 |
| Jute, raw | 17,67,175 | 117,812 | 19,99,890 | 133,326 |
| Hides and skins | 11,98,191 | 79,879 | 12,29,054 | 81,937 |
| Spices | 8,32,589 | 55,506 | 11,06,983 | 73,799 |
| *Exports from India—* | | | | |
| Cotton piecegoods | 52,51,947 | 350,130 | 50,32,745 | 335,516 |
| „ twist and yarn | 14,47,332 | 96,489 | 16,60,806 | 110,720 |
| Metals | 11,31,654 | 75,444 | 13,05,307 | 87,020 |
| Salt | 11,18,902 | 74,593 | 10,99,774 | 73,318 |
| Spices | 10,38,375 | 69,225 | 11,44,529 | 76,302 |
| Sugar | 7,72,271 | 51,485 | 8,45,800 | 56,387 |

Under **imports** there are advances generally except under the head of **cattle,** and the total rose by about 15 per cent from ₹297·26 lakhs (£1,981,733) to ₹341·32 lakhs (£2,275,467). Nepal is the only country from which India imports **jute,** but the increase of 55 per cent in quantity is discounted by a fall in specific value from ₹10 (13*s* 4*d*) to ₹7 (9*s* 4*d*) per cwt. Of articles unenumerated above **timber** valued at ₹6·11 lakhs (£40,733) and **railway materials** worth ₹5·63 lakhs (£37,533) deserve notice.

The total volume of **exports** advanced from ₹138·43 lakhs (£922,867) to ₹151·75 lakhs (£1,011,667). The value of **cotton piece-goods** has again declined, but that of **twist and yarn** shews a percentage increase of 14 and the figures for **metals** have readily returned to the level attained in 1905-06. Salt had a further set-back, but **spices** and **sugar** continue to progress.

**Sikkim and Bhutan**—The trade with **Sikkim** grew from ₹12 lakhs (£80,000) to ₹16 lakhs (£106,667) and was generally brisk, while that with **Bhutan** declined from ₹13·92 (£92,800) to ₹5·95 lakhs (£39,667). Sikkim supplied **grain** to the value of ₹3·89 lakhs (£25,933) as against ₹3·73 lakhs (£24,867) in the previous year, and **fruits,** etc., to the value of ₹1·42 lakh (£9,467) against ₹1·2 lakh (£8,000), the total imports from that source amounting to ₹8·24 lakhs (£54,933) as compared with ₹6·79 lakhs (£45,267) in 1906-07. The greater part of imports from **Bhutan** consists of **timber,** and this fell away from ₹7·29 lakhs (£48,600) to ₹20,930 (£1,395) and **fruits,** etc., with a value of ₹67,150 (£4,477) instead of ₹1·06 lakh (£7,067). The total value of **timber** alone imported in 1906-07 was 64 per cent of the total value of imports. The exports to Sikkim shewed marked improvement, rising from ₹5·25 lakhs (£35,000) to ₹7·98 lakhs (£53,200). They consisted chiefly of **grain** ₹1·41 lakh (£9,400), **cotton piece-goods,** chiefly Indian, ₹1,54,000 (£10,267), and **salt** ₹30,000 (£2,000). The exports to Bhutan decreased to ₹2·54 lakhs (£16,933); and of these the most important were **cotton piece-goods**, chiefly foreign, and **yarn** with a value of ₹96,000 (£6,400), **silk manufactures** ₹30,000 (£2,000), and **spices** ₹19,000 (£1,267).

**Tibet**—Though trade with Tibet has still to contend with great difficulties in the matter of communications, it has steadily improved in the last two years and is likely to be further encouraged by the signing in April last of the Trade Regulations, which were adumbrated in the Treaty of Lhasa. The total trade rose from ₹35·06 lakhs (£233,733) to ₹40·21 lakhs (£268,067), the net increase being ₹5·15 lakhs (£34,333), chiefly under the head of imports. Exports rose by about 8·6 per cent from ₹15·53 lakhs (£103,533) to ₹16·88 lakhs (£112,533), the principal articles being, as usual, **cotton piece-goods** with a value of ₹4 lakhs (£26,667) and **yarn** with a value of ₹59,455 (£3,964). Other important articles were **grain** (48 per cent of which was husked rice) ₹2·61 lakhs (£17,400), **coral** ₹93,000 (£6,200), **woollen manufactures** ₹1·61 lakh (£10,733), and **metals** ₹71,000 (£4,733). The imports of **wool** increased by 44 per cent in quantity (from 34,869 to 50,299 cwts) and 22 per cent in value (from ₹10·97 lakhs = £73,133 to ₹13·4 lakhs = £89,333). Other principal articles were: **borax** ₹2·45 lakhs (£16,333), **salt** ₹1·26 lakh (£8,400), and **horses, ponies, and mules** ₹52,000 (£3,467).

## EASTERN FRONTIER

**Western China**—The trade registered under this head practically consists of the exchanges between Bhamo and the Yunnan province of China, and in view of the proposals now under consideration to link up Bhamo with Tengyeh and Talifu by railway, the figures below have considerable interest. The trade increased from ₹53·42 lakhs (£356,133) to ₹57·97 lakhs (£386,467). **Imports** showed a small decline of ·9 per cent from ₹17·11 lakhs (£114,067) to ₹16·95 lakhs (£113,000), while **exports** increased by 14 per cent from ₹36·31 lakhs (£242,067) to ₹41·02 lakhs (£273,467). **Opium**, which was ₹2·15 lakhs (£14,333) in 1906-07, dropped to ₹1·51 lakh (£10,067) in the year under

review. **Hides of cattle** decreased from R4·78 lakhs (£31,867) to R3·15 lakhs (£21,000), and **orpiment** from R1·49 lakhs (£9,933) to R1·44 lakh (£9,600), but **animals, living,** increased from R1·85 lakhs (£12,333) to R2·22 lakhs (£14,800), and **lac** from R45,000 (£3,000) to R72,000 (£4,800). Of the **exports** 53 per cent consisted of **cotton yarn** (all of Indian manufacture) and this article increased from R20·34 lakhs (£135,600) to R21·75 lakhs (£145,000). **Cotton piece-goods** again showed continued development at R5·11 lakhs (£34,067) as compared with R5·05 lakhs (£33,667) in the previous year. The other principal items of export were: **raw cotton** R3·91 lakhs (£26,067), **jadestone** R1·31 lakh (£8,733), **provisions** R2·05 lakhs (£13,667), and **salt** R1·49 lakh (£9,933). Exports of **petroleum** increased by 56 per cent and rose from R36,700 (£2,447) to R57,320 (£3,821).

**Shan States (North and South)** are Native States under British suzerainty, but for convenience of registration they are treated as foreign countries, and two-thirds of the trade across the Eastern Frontier relates to them. The extension of the Northern Shan States Railway to Lashio has, amongst other benefits, lowered considerably the cost of transport. The total trade increased by R51·94 lakhs (£346,267) or 24 per cent from R214·67 lakhs (£1,431,000) to R266·61 lakhs (£1,777,400). The principal articles imported and exported from and to these States are shown below in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling:—**

| | North Shan States | | | | South Shan States | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | |
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| *Imports from—* | | | | | | | | |
| Animals, living | 70 = | 5 | 1,37 = | 9 | 7,32 = | 49 | 7,54 = | 50 |
| Letpet (pickled tea) | 22,07 | 147 | 23,86 | 159 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Tea (Foreign) | 8,84 | 59 | 10,06 | 67 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Teak timber | 6,30 | 42 | 7,25 | 48 | 9,53 | 64 | 8,48 | 57 |
| Grain and Pulse, chiefly rice husked | 2,18 | 14 | 8,46 | 56 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Lac | 2,42 | 16 | 1,74 | 12 | 12,87 | 86 | 9,46 | 63 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts— | | | | | | | | |
| Potatoes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,38 | 16 | 2,78 | 19 |
| Other kinds | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,97 | 20 | 3,78 | 25 |
| *Exports to—* | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton piecegoods Foreign | 10,32 | 69 | 1682 | 112 | 20,78 | 139 | 31,82 | 212 |
| Cotton yarn— | | | | | | | | |
| Foreign | 10,33 | 69 | 7,74 | 52 | 57 | 4 | 58 | 4 |
| Indian | 2,35 | 16 | 2,26 | 15 | 2,32 | 15 | 1,94 | 13 |
| Provisions, mostly fish | 7,30 | 49 | 8,88 | 59 | 4,56 | 30 | 7,18 | 48 |
| Salt | 3,12 | 21 | 3,20 | 21 | 1,82 | 12 | 1,62 | 11 |
| Metals, mostly iron | 6,78 | 45 | 3,71 | 25 | 1,35 | 9 | 1,76 | 12 |
| Spices, mostly betelnuts | 1,62 | 11 | 1,53 | 10 | 5,29 | 35 | 3,62 | 24 |
| Silk, mostly manufactured | 88 | 6 | 1,84 | 12 | 3,82 | 25 | 6,61 | 44 |

It will be seen from the above table that there was a much larger import of rice, tea, and teak from the North Shan States, but a great decline in lac and teak imported from the South Shan States. As regards exports, **cotton piece-goods, foreign,** increased by R6·50 lakhs (£43,000) and R11·04 lakhs (£74,000) to the North and South Shan States respectively. There were also noticeable increases under **provisions** and **silk manufactures** exported to the South Shan States.

**North and South Siam**—The trade is chiefly carried along the Thinganyinaung, Kwanbi, Pa-an, and Papun routes. Teak is floated down the Salween and Menam, but it is reported that the timber trade is much inconvenienced by constant elephant thefts. The total trade with these territories increased from ₹43·64 lakhs (£291,000) to ₹48·24 lakhs (£322,000), of this North Siam accounts for ₹37·85 lakhs (£252,000). The chief articles of imports from North Siam are **teak timber** (₹13·03 lakhs=£87,000) and **cattle** (₹5·49 lakhs=£37,000) and from South Siam **manufactured silk** (₹3·74 lakhs=£25,000), and those of exports to North Siam are **cotton yarn** and **piece-goods** (₹6·23 lakhs=£42,000) and **silk manufactures** (₹3·47 lakhs=£23,000).

**Karenni**—The trade with Karenni is less than ₹21 lakhs (£140,000) and shows a decline of 16 per cent on the previous year's figures. The diminished total is composed of ₹16·81 lakhs (£112,067) under imports and ₹3·98 lakhs (£26,533) under exports The **imports** consisted almost entirely of **teak** with a value of ₹16·46 lakhs (£109,733) and among the **exports** the only considerable tem is **live animals** with a reduced total of ₹1·17 lakh (£7,800). **Jewellery and precious stones and pearls, unset,** increased in value from ₹9,571 (£638) to ₹33,647 (£2,243).

## COASTING TRADE

The Coasting Trade figures cannot be statistically examined as they stand, as the merchandise shipped from one port in British India to another undergoes double registration as an export and as an import. The correct value is therefore arrived at by adding to the value of the imports into British ports from other British ports the sum of the imports and exports in the trade between British and non-British ports in India. The value so calculated in respect of 1907-08 is, for merchandise, ₹5,880 lakhs (£39,200,000), the increase being ₹654 lakhs (£4,360,000) or 12·5 per cent on the figures of the previous year. Though **food-grains** represented a slightly diminished percentage (26·5 as against 28·9 in 1906-07) of the total, the value rose from ₹1,495 lakhs (£996,600) to ₹1,558 lakhs (£10,386,600), the increase being ₹63 lakhs (£420,000). Of the total value of food-grains, **rice** represented 78·5 per cent and of this grain there were greatly increased shipments from Burma to Bengal and to Bombay, while less went to Eastern Bengal and Assam where the harvest was good in 1907. The recorded exports of rice from Burma to Indian ports amounted to 979,000 tons, an increase of 166,000 tons. High prices seem to have killed the export trade in **parboiled rice** from Chittagong which was once considerable. The exports of **mineral oil** from Burma to Indian ports increased from 58·5 to 72 million gallons. The quantity taken by Calcutta for distribution by sea to other ports increased from 33 to 37 million gallons, the direct shipment from Burma to other provinces being— Bombay 13·4 million gallons, Madras 12·5 million gallons, and Sind 1·9 million gallons. The coastal exports of **gunny bags** from Calcutta, mainly to Burma and Bombay, increased in value from ₹196·2 lakhs (£1,308,000) to ₹235·5 lakhs (£1,570,000) and in quantity from 64 to 80 million bags. There was a slight set-back in the coastal shipments of **Bengal coal** which fell from 2,257,000 tons to 2,213,000 tons. The quantity of **Indian made cotton piece-goods** shipped from the Bombay Presidency shews a most remarkable advance. The quantity rose from 164·5 to 239 million yards and the value from ₹246·6 lakhs (£1,644,000) to ₹387·6 lakhs (£2,584,000), the increase being 74·5 million yards or 45 per cent in quantity and ₹141 lakhs (£940,000) or 57

per cent in value, but in specific value 8 per cent only. The provinces in which the largest expansion took place were Bengal and Sind, as the following table shews:—

| | Quantity | | Value | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | |
| | Yds. | Yds. | ₹ | | £ | ₹ | | £ |
| To Bengal | 39,946,898 | 86,119,516 | 62,28,886 | = | 415,259 | 1,53,61,431 | = | 1,024,095 |
| „ Sind | 109,901,625 | 136,126,905 | 1,59,50,055 | | 1,063,337 | 2,03,80,266 | | 1,358,684 |
| „ Madras | 1,956,617 | 2,871,686 | 3,51,073 | | 23,405 | 5,12,872 | | 34,191 |
| „ Burma | 8,767,238 | 9,889,587 | 15,69,957 | | 104,664 | 18,49,122 | | 123,275 |

## RAILWAY GOODS TRAFFIC

The increase in **Railway goods traffic** is some measure of the growth of India's total trade, but when famine conditions prevail, as in the latter half of the year under review, interprovincial transport of grain and fodder impairs the value of the figures as an index of purely mercantile activity. The statement given below shows (in thousands) the progressive advance in the ton-mileage of goods traffic on the principal railways in India during the last five years:

| | Units | Units | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1903 | 7,623,682 | +436,143 | or 6·7 per cent |
| 1904 | 8,969,140 | +1,345,458 | „ 17·6 „ |
| 1905 | 9,260,752 | +291,612 | „ 3·2 „ |
| 1906 | 10,052,132 | +791,380 | „ 8·5 „ |
| 1907 | 11,103,514 | +1,051,382 | „ 10·4 „ |

The total increase in the period of five years has thus been 3,915,975,000 ton-miles or nearly 54·5 per cent on the figures for 1902. In the same quinquennium the increase in goods traffic rolling stock is one of 25 per cent, the number of wagons having risen from 99,348 in 1902 to 124,104 in 1907.

From the statistics of twenty leading railways the average charge for freight works out at 1·32 pies per ton-mile.

C. W. E. COTTON,

*Offg. Director General, Commercial Intelligence*

CALCUTTA
*July 27, 1908*

CALCUTTA: PRINTED BY SUPDT. GOVT. PRINTING, INDIA, 8, HASTINGS STREET

# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

IN

# 1908-09.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN and SONS, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and
32, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, Tweeddale Court, Edinburgh; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

1909.

[Cd. 4912.] *Price* 1*s.* 3*d.*

(14448—3.) Wt. 18596—185. 800. 10/09. D & S.

*This map is intended to illustrate the principal sources of specific products. The principal areas of production of the staple crops of British India, namely, rice, wheat, oil-seeds, sugarcane, tea, coffee, cotton, and jute, are indicated by hatchings—horizontal, vertical, and diagonal—in two colours, black and red; and the location of the principal coal-fields is marked with black dots. For want of data, no information is given as regards Native States, and the districts in which the area under the selected crop is less than 10 per cent of the total cropped area have been ignored. The chief railway systems are indicated by thin black lines.*

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SUMATRA
Port Blair
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Mergui
Tenasserim
Kandy
Dondra Hd.

# Review of the Trade of India in 1908-09

LIST OF CORRIGENDA

| Page | Line | For | Read |
|---|---|---|---|
| 17 | 42 | 1,668,14 tons | 1,668,141 tons |
| 21 | 49 | £1,56 | £1,560 |
| | 50 | £2,15 | £2,157 |
| | 53 | tons 6 | tons 611 |
| 26 | 18 | £48,500 | £18,500 |
| 28 | 36 | £80 | £800 |
| 34 | 14 | R10,03 crores | R10·03 crores |
| 51 | 21 | 1¼ million lbs | ½ million lbs |
| | 27 | ava | Java |
| 77 | 33 | R81·47 lakhs (£543,000) | R8,147 lakhs (£54,313,000) |
| | 34 | R95·37 lakhs (£635,800) | R9,537 lakhs (£63,580,000) |
| | 48 | R5,219·05 lakhs | R15,219·05 lakhs |
| 89 | 39 | a hs | lakhs |
| | 49 | **otton** | **cotton** |
| 91 | 6 | **ive** | **live** |

# THE TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

For the official year ending March 31, 1909

## CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The trading power of India depends on the success of its crops. Therefore some account of the climatic conditions of each year is requisite for a comprehension of the trade recorded and of the prospect. In respect of certain crops the volume of trade in one statistical year is determined by the weather of the previous season; and in the notes on produce of this kind the necessary particulars regarding that earlier season are given. The following notes summarise the weather record of the season 1908-09 in respect of each province. They are founded on weather reports that accompanied the various crop forecasts and have been revised by the respective Local Governments. The cropped area including current fallows is shown in each case.

**Eastern Bengal and Assam (23,823,000 acres)**—During March and April rainfall was scanty, and the jute and sugarcane crops suffered from want of moisture. Good rain fell in May; and this, followed by copious showers in June and July, entirely changed the situation. The latter part of July and the whole of August were, however, characterised by an abnormal drought. This greatly impeded the retting of jute and the transplanting of winter rice. In September good rain fell throughout the province, which greatly benefited the autumn crops as well as the winter rice crop. In October, rainfall was deficient and this not only affected the late transplanted rice on high lands, but also left insufficient moisture in the soil for the sowing of spring crops Light scattered showers were received afterwards, but in general the crops continued to suffer from want of sufficient moisture.

**Bengal (41,335,000 acres)**—Ante-monsoon showers were defective in April and May and in the beginning of June. The monsoon broke about the middle of June when heavy showers fell in South-West Bengal. Elsewhere the fall was below the normal. In July and August ample rain was received throughout the province except Bihar. The crops suffered from heavy rain in South-West Bengal and in Orissa and from drought in Bihar. In the first week of October rainfall was general; but subsequently drought prevailed, especially in Bihar. This affected the outturn of winter rice and hindered the growth of the early spring crops. The rainfall in the latter part of January did much good to the spring crops, but it was too scanty in Bihar.

**United Provinces (39,028,000 acres)**—In the third week of June sufficient rain was received in the submontane districts to give an early start to autumn sowings; while in the rest of the province general rain fell early in July.

The rainfall of that month was copious and well-distributed. The rain in August was heavy and continuous and caused some injury to the crops in places. Light rain fell in all districts early in September, in the west this was the end of the monsoon, but the rest of the province received rain in the last few days of September and the beginning of October. The drought injured the crops, especially in some of the sub-montane districts. Moisture in the soil was insufficient in many places and irrigation had to be extensively resorted to for the sowing of wheat and other spring crops. November and December were practically rainless, but some rain fell in January. The western plains had as a rule adequate general falls which benefited the crops ; but elsewhere the falls were too light and local to be satisfactory. The rainfall in February also was usually insignificant.

**Panjab (28,257,000 acres)**—Good rain was received in the second week of April. The monsoon arrived a little later than usual, but gave copious and well-distributed showers which benefited the sugarcane crop and facilitated the sowing of autumn crops on an extensive scale. The heavy and continuous rain from the beginning of August to the beginning of September caused a great deal of damage to the cotton, sesamum, maize, and jawar crops, especially on low-lying tracts, but it left an abundance of moisture in the soil for the sowing of early spring crops. The winter rains opened with light but useful showers in the fourth week of December in the Salt Range, the submontane districts, and in parts of certain other districts. The January rainfall was very disappointing. The character of the February rainfall was also unsatisfactory up to the 20th and 21st when there was precipitation which greatly improved the condition of the spring crops. March was very dry, except for one good fall of rain in the Salt Range, and the winter rainfall has been much below the average.

**North-West Frontier Province (2,784,000 acres)**—Rainfall was deficient during the months of March to June, and this somewhat affected the cotton and sugarcane crops. The rain in September was timely and abundant which facilitated the sowing of wheat and spring oilseeds. The winter rains began in the third week of December, but their amount was smaller than in the previous year.

**Sind (8,894,000 acres)**—Good inundation facilitated the sowing of cotton and sesamum on an extensive scale. Insects and frost, however, damaged the cotton crop in places. Wheat and rapeseed were sown under favourable inundation, but both suffered from frost which diminished the outturn.

**Bombay (32,722,000 acres)**—Early rain commenced in the second week of June. In July and August rainfall was continuous in Gujarat, the Konkan, and West Deccan, and excessive in some parts, particularly in Gujarat. In the Eastern Deccan, however, and over most of the Southern Mahratha country the July and August rains were much in defect, and the autumn sowings were accordingly much restricted. Late rains failed in Upper Gujarat, and were moderate in Lower Gujarat. The Konkan and Deccan received admirable rains in September which brought on the autumn crops well and enabled extensive sowings of spring (rabi) crops. Parts of the Southern Mahratha country, however, got little or none of this rain. Subsequent rains were scanty and partial. The condition of crops in Upper Gujarat was fair to poor, in Lower Gujarat fair to good, in Konkan and West Deccan good, in East Deccan moderate, and in the Southern Mahratta country fair to poor.

**Central Provinces and Berar (27,708,000 acres)**—The monsoon commenced somewhat late. Heavy and continuous rain in July and August swamped

the fields and damaged the cotton and sesamum crops in certain places. The break which set in at the end of September improved the condition of these crops greatly for a time; but subsequently they suffered from want of rain. The heavy rains of July—August left sufficient moisture in the soil for the sowing of wheat and spring oilseeds, and an extensive area was sown with these crops. The holding-off of the winter rains together with cloudy weather, hail, and frost slightly damaged the linseed crop in several districts; but light rain fell in the first fortnight of February and greatly benefited the wheat crop. Light showers accompanied in some instances by hail were received in March in a few districts but the hail did no damage.

**Madras (42,025,000 acres)**—Rainfall was seasonable for sesamum and groundnut; but for rice, cotton, indigo, and surgarcane the season was less favourable owing to deficient water-supply.

**Burma (17,649,000 acres)**—Weather was favourable till the end of October. In November, heavy and continuous rain and storms did some damage to the standing rice crop in the Arakan Division, and to the cotton crop in Upper Burma; but the damage was not widespread. The winter crop did well, and the spring crops have been satisfactory.

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF TRADE

The returns of the seaborne trade of India for the year 1908-09 show clearly the malign effects of the general stringency in trade that has characterised the year throughout the world, and of the failure of rains in large tracts of India from which export produce is drawn.

The general depression has been so great as to obscure or obliterate the effect of minor influences which, in normal times, it is interesting to trace in the statistics relating to individual commodities. It has been ascribed primarily to reaction from overtrading and overproduction induced by five years of prosperity and rising prices. Production overtook consumption in the world's markets; and this condition made them so sensitive that in 1907 certain secondary influences brought about a collapse. The resultant situation was the more serious because of the large stocks that had accumulated not only in the great centres of the world's trade, where the existence of these stocks was perceived, but in a number of outlying markets where they were out of sight.

The year 1908 began under these conditions; and the depression grew deeper in proportion as the forward business that had been engaged in ran out or was found to be unrealizable.

While the crisis produced in America certain distinctive symptoms, England had troubles peculiar to herself. Among these were the engineering strike on the North East Coast, the strike and lock out in the cotton industry, anxiety about conditions in India, suspicion as to the goodwill of certain foreign countries, misgivings about possible complications in the Near East, solicitude about the presidential election in the United States, and a premonition of some such deficit in the home Exchequer as has now been announced by Mr. Lloyd George.

The universality of the trade depression in 1908 is shown by the following figures. Imports into the **United Kingdom** were only £593·14 millions in 1908 or £52·67 millions less than in 1907, while the exports at £456·88 millions marked a fall of £61·09 millions, and the total showed a loss of £113·76 millions (or 9·8 per cent). The imports into the **United States** were £232·58 millions or

£63·91, millions less than in 1907. The exports were £360·24 millions or £34·63 millions and the total of £592·82 millions was £98·54 millions (14·2 per cent), less than in the previous year. **Germany** recorded imports £409·95 millions and exports £332·03 millions with a total of £741·98 millions, which marks a decline of £24·9 millions (3·2 per cent) made up of £20·09 millions in imports and of only £4·81 millions in exports. **Austria-Hungary** imported goods worth £105·52 millions which was some £1·27 millions more than in 1907 ; but her exports fell from £102·38 to £96·87 millions and the total trade declined by 2 per cent, namely, from £206·63 millions to £202·39 millions. **France** reduced her imports from £248·9 millions to £243·6 millions and her exports from £223·8 to £210·9 millions, the total trade being thus £454·5 millions as compared with £472·7 millions, which marks a decline of 3·8 per cent. **Belgium's** total trade fell (by 4·6 per cent) from £249·7 millions to £238·3 millions.

These factors are alluded to because it is impossible to give an intelligent account of the present phase of Indian trade without indicating the trade conditions that have recently ruled throughout the world. The unity of the world's trade has never received a clearer demonstration than in the uniformity with which all countries felt simultaneously the impulse of enterprise and production which lasted for five years or more, and then the reaction that resulted from a general state of over extension.

India was subject to a number of special disabilities during 1907 and 1908. The most important was the insufficiency and the bad distribution of the rains, on which everything in India depends. The effect of their miscarriage may be seen in the following figures which show the extent to which contraction took place in the area under the several principal crops and in the estimated outturn :

| | 1907-08 | | 1906-07 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Area Acres | Yield Tons | Area Acres | Yield Tons |
| Rice . . | 54,677,300 | 18,960,600 | 54,157,600 | 21,387,200 |
| Cotton . | 21,630,000 | 557,500 | 22,329,000 | 881,000 |
| Wheat . | 22,806,200 | 6,104,200 | 29,212,500 | 8,491,700 |
| Jute* . . | 3,974,300 | 1,753,200 | 3,482,900 | 1,644,000 |
| Rape and mustard | 5,200,200 | 688,000 | 6,393,100 | 1,053,100 |
| Linseed . | 2,099,400 | 163,200 | 3,743,200 | 425,200 |

These figures show a decline in every case except jute, and the rates of decline were as follows :

| | Area | Outturn |
|---|---|---|
| Rice . . . . . | + 0·9 | −11·3 |
| Cotton . . . . . | − 3·1 | −36·7 |
| Wheat . . . . . | −21·9 | −28·1 |
| Jute . . . . . | +14·1 | + 6·6 |
| Rape and mustard . . . . | −18·6 | −34·7 |
| Linseed . . . . . | −43·9 | −61·6 |

In the face of these figures, it is not surprising that there has been some distress in the country and that prices have ranged high especially for food grains. A calculation based on the average monthly prices of the seven principal food-grains of India during 1908 and during the previous five years shows that the price in 1908 was 57·3 per cent higher than the average of the five years' period and a further investigation as to the effect of such a rise when applied to the estimated normal consumption of food grains shows that

it represents an additional expenditure of some ₹196·2 crores (£130·8 millions), whereas the total value of all imports amounted to less than ₹144 crores (£96 millions). It is necessary to remember, however, that in India most of the consumers of food grains are also producers. The extent to which these higher rates recouped the money value of the produce lost may be roughly computed by a valuation of the several crops at the average wholesale prices ruling at certain principal marts in India. It would of course be wrong to accept as an index of farm values of these prices, but for comparative purposes the calculation has some interest. It has been made for the last two years in respect of cotton, jute, rice, wheat, tea, linseed, rape and mustard, sesamum, and groundnut. For the last the declared value has been taken in the absence of any other price. The total value of the later year works out at ₹420·24 crores (£280·16 millions) against ₹421·5 crores (£281 millions) in the earlier year, the fall being about ·3 per cent.

In the following statement the value of the sea-borne trade of India for the year 1908-09 is summarised and compared with the value of the trade in each of the preceding two years. Government transactions both in merchandise and in treasure are excluded. *The unit in every case is 1,000:*

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Exports—* | | | | | | |
| Indian merchandise . | 1,73,08,20 | = 115,388 | 1,73,47,82 | = 115,652 | 1,49,82,39 | = 99,883 |
| Foreign merchandise re-exported . | 3,48,40 | 2,323 | 3,76,74 | 2,512 | 3,17,07 | 2,114 |
| Gold . . . | 3,67,73 | 2,452 | 3,38,49 | 2,257 | 3,68,81 | 2,459 |
| Silver . . . | 2,03,57 | 1,357 | 2,06,13 | 1,374 | 2,26,86 | 1,512 |
| Total Exports . . | 1,82,27,90 | 121,520 | 1,82,69,18 | 121,795 | 1,58,95,13 | 105,968 |
| *Imports—* | | | | | | |
| Merchandise . . | 1,08,30,76 | = 72,205 | 1,29,89,51 | = 86,597 | 1,21,26,58 | = 80,844 |
| Gold . . . | 18,47,08 | 12,314 | 20,73,46 | 13,823 | 8,40,42 | 5,603 |
| Silver . . . | 8,73,02 | 5,820 | 12,08,58 | 8,057 | 14,22,76 | 9,485 |
| Total Imports . . | 1,35,50,86 | 90,339 | 1,62,71,55 | 108,477 | 1,43,89,76 | 95,932 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 3,17,78,76 | 211,859 | 3,45,40,73 | 230,272 | 3,02,84,89 | 201,900 |

The increases or decreases under these several heads are as follows as compared with the two previous years:

| | 1907-08 | | per cent | 1906-07 | | per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Exports—* | ₹ | £ | | ₹ | £ | |
| Indian merchandise . | −23,65,43 | = 15,770 | = 13·6 | −23,25,81 | = 15,505 | = 13·4 |
| Foreign „ . | − 59,66 | 397 | 15·8 | − 31,33 | 209 | 9 |
| Gold . . . | + 30,32 | 202 | 8·96 | + 1,08 | 7 | ·29 |
| Silver . . . | + 20,73 | 138 | 10·05 | + 23,29 | 155 | 11·4 |
| Total Exports . | −23,74,04 | 15,827 | 13·05 | −23,32,77 | 15,552 | 12·8 |

| *Imports*— | 1907-08 ₹ | £ | Per cent | 1906-07 ₹ | £ | Per cent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Merchandise . . | − 8,62,93 | =5,753= | 6·6 | +12,95,82 | =8,639= | 11·9 |
| Gold . . . | −12,33,04 | 8,220 | 59·5 | −10,06,66 | 6,711 | 54·5 |
| Silver . . . | + 2,14,18 | 1,428 | 17·7 | + 5,49,74 | 3,665 | 62·97 |
| Total Imports . | −18,81,79 | 12,545 | 11·6 | + 8 38,90 | 5,593 | 6·2 |
| Grand Total . | −42,55,84 | 28,372 | 12·3 | −14,93,87 | 9,959 | 4·7 |

The **grand total** of Exports and Imports was ₹302·85 crores (201·9 millions sterling) as against ₹345·41 crores (£230·27 millions) in 1907-08, the decrease being one of ₹42·56 crores (£28·37 millions) or 12·3 per cent. The total includes some ₹3·2 crores of foreign merchandise re-exported but excludes about ₹4·52 crores of material imported by Government for State Railways.

**Exports** represented 52·5 per cent of this grand total and amounted to ₹158·95 crores (£105·97 millions) as against ₹182·69 crores (£121·79 millions in the previous year. The decrease here was ₹23·74 crores (£15·82 millions) and this represented 55·8 per cent of the total decline in trade and 13 per cent on the export figures for 1907-08.

**Imports** had a total value of ₹143·9 crores (£95·93 millions) as against ₹162·72 crores (£108·48 millions) in 1907-08, the decline here being ₹18·82 crores (£12·5 millions) or 11·6 per cent.

**Exports of Indian Merchandise** fell from ₹173·48 crores (£115·65 millions) to ₹149·82 crores (£99·88 millions) which involves a decline of ₹23·65 crores (£15·77 millions) or 13·6 per cent. This of course accounts for the greater part (55·6 per cent) of the total decline in the year's trade, seeing that in 1907-08 the exports of Indian merchandise represented 50·2 per cent of the total trade.

**Re-exports of Foreign Merchandise** declined from ₹3·77 crores (£2·51 millions) in 1907-08 to ₹3·17 crores (£2·11 millions) in 1908-09, the decline here being nearly ₹60 lakhs (£400,000) or 15·9 per cent.

The movements of **Treasure** have been curious during the past year, the large imports of silver in the later months being specially interesting. The total **Imports of Treasure** fell from ₹32·82 crores (£21·88 millions) to ₹22·63 crores (£15·09 millions), the contraction of ₹10·19 crores (£6·79 millions) representing 31 per cent of the earlier year's figure. But whereas the imports of gold dropped from ₹20·73 crores (£13·82 millions) to ₹8·4 crores (£5·6 millions), thus marking a loss of ₹12·33 crores or 59·5 per cent, the arrivals of silver at ₹14·23 crores (£9·49 millions) showed an advance of ₹2·15 crores or 17·7 per cent.

**Bengal's** share of the total movement of merchandise was 40·4 per cent, as against 39·9 per cent in 1907-08. Her aggregate fell from ₹122·69 crores (£81·79 millions) to ₹110·64 crores (£73·76 millions), the loss being ₹12·05 crores (£8·03 millions) or 9·8 per cent. The decline in exports was one of ₹3·65 crores (£2·43 millions) or 5·2 per cent, bringing the total to ₹66·4 crores (£44·3 millions) in place of ₹70·06 crores (£46·71 millions) in 1907-08. The total imports of ₹44·24 crores (£29·5 millions) marked a decline of ₹8·4 crores (£5·6 millions) or 16 per cent as compared with the previous year.

**Eastern Bengal and Assam** returned a total trade of R5·33 crores (£3·55 millions), which consisted of Ro·6 crore (£0·4 million) imports and R4·73 crores (£3·15 millions) exports. The comparative figures recorded for the new province, therefore, show an increase of R1·01 crores (£0·67 million) or 23·4 per cent.

**Bombay,** which did 30·1 per cent of the total trade in place of 30·5 per cent as in 1907-08, shows a diminished aggregate of R82·53 crores (£55 millions) as against R93·62 crores (£62·41 millions) in 1907-08, the decline here being one of R11·09 crores (£7·39 millions). Her exports fell by R6·7 crores (£4·47 millions) to R42·1 crores (£28 millions) and her imports by R4·39 crores (£2·93 millions). The percentage declines in these two cases were 13·7 per cent and 9·8 per cent respectively, the net decline in the total being 11·8 per cent.

**Sind's** total movement of merchandise was from R28·61 crores (£19·07 millions) to R19·92 crores (£13·28 millions) in the year under review and consisted of R8·6 crores (£5·73 millions) in exports and R11·32 crores (£7·55 millions) in imports. Sind's share in the total trade of the country in 1907-08 was 9·3 per cent. This was not greatly short of the share of Burma or of Madras and was due mainly to her considerable export trade in wheat, etc. In 1908-09 that export trade fell from R18·09 crores (£12·6 millions) to R8·6 crores (£5·73 millions) and with imports at R11·32 crores (£7·55 millions) instead of R10·52 crores (£7·01 millions), the total trade represented only 7·3 per cent of India's total.

**Madras** returns a total trade of R29·77 crores (£19·85 millions), which is greater by R·8 crore (£·5 million) or 2·8 per cent than in the previous year. Her exports decreased by 2·7 per cent to R18·23 crores (£12·15 millions) but her imports increased by 12·6 per cent to R11·54 crores (£7·7 millions).

**Burma** returns a total trade of R26·06 crores (£17·37 millions), which is less by R2·87 crores (£1·91 millions) or 9·9 per cent. than in the previous year. Her exports declined by R4·85 crores (£3·23 millions) or 27·3 per cent to R12·93 crores (£8·62 millions), and her imports rose by R1·98 crores (£1·32 millions) or 17·8 per cent to R13·13 crores (£8·75 millions).

The experience of the several provinces in respect of imports has varied greatly. While Bengal imported R839·16 lakhs (£5,594,000) less than in the previous year, Eastern Bengal and Assam increased its small total by about R7·89 lakhs (£52,600). Bombay imported some R438·46 lakhs (£2,923,000) less than in 1907-08, while Sind increased her imports by R79·58 lakhs (£530 500). Madras and Burma also increased their imports by R129·09 lakhs and R198·13 lakhs (£860,600 and £1,320,900) respectively but the aggregate of the increases goes only a small way towards recouping the heavy fall in Bengal and Bombay.

The **Exports of Indian merchandise** form 54·6 per cent of the sum of imports and exports, and 97·9 per cent of the total exports as against 56·5 per cent and 98 per cent in 1907-08. The total value was R149·82 crores (£99·88 millions) as against R173·48 crores (£115·65 millions) in 1907-08, the decline being one of R23·65 crores (£15·77 millions) or 13·6 per cent.

**Raw materials and unmanufactured articles** form 44·8 per cent of the total as against 43·9 per cent in 1907-08. The total value under this head was R67·18 crores (£44·79 millions) as compared with R76·23 crores (£50·82 millions) in 1907-08, the decline being one of R9·05 crores (£6·03 millions) or nearly 12 per cent. The principal items are **raw jute** and **raw**

**cotton,** and these, in the year under review, were of nearly equal value, namely, R19·83 crores (£13·22 millions) in Jute and R19·77 crores (£13·18 millions) in Cotton. There was in Jute a recovery of R1·86 crores (£1·24 millions) equal to 10·4 per cent, while Cotton, after a substantial increase in 1907-08, fell away by no less than R5·9 crores (£3·95 millions) equal to 23·1 per cent. Jute represents 29·6 per cent, and Cotton 29·4 per cent, of the total. **Seeds** at R11·68 crores (£7·79 millions) represent 47·4 per cent of the total class, but showed a decline of R5 13 crores (£3·42 millions) or 30·5 per cent. It may be noted, however, that the figure of R16·81 crores (£11·21 millions) in 1907-08 was the largest on record. **Raw hides**, which in 1907-08 declined by nearly one-third to R4·32 crores (£2·88 millions), made an advance of R46·55 lakhs (£310,000) or 10·8 per cent and registered a total of R4·78 crores (£3·19 millions). **Raw skins**, which had shown in the last two years successive declines aggregating more than R2 crores, made a recovery of R82·18 lakhs (£548,000), bringing the total to R3·55 crores (£2·37 millions).

**Exports of Indian manufactures** represent about 24·5 per cent of the total exports. Their value declined from R39·30 crores (£26·2 millions) to R36·65 crores (£24·43 millions), the loss being R2·64 crores (£1·76 millions) or 6·7 per cent. In this class *Jute goods* represented 43 per cent of the total and continued to hold the lead with a value of R15·73 crores (£10·49 millions) which, however, is less by R2·56 crores (£1·71 millions) or 24 per cent than in 1907-08. *Cotton goods*, which declined largely in 1907-08, rose by a net R77·05 lakhs (£514,000) or 7 per cent to R11·54 crores (£7·69 millions). Of this rise *yarns* contributed R70·75 lakhs (£472,000) and *piecegoods* R6·61 lakhs (£44,000), while *other cotton goods* fell by R30,890 (£2,060). Exports of *Lac*, after continuous advances over a series of years, receded by R1·14 crores (£760,000) or 29·4 per cent to R2·73 crores (1·82 millions). Exports of *Hides and skins, raw and tanned*, rose by R1·52 crores (£1·01 millions) or 13·9 per cent, bringing the total from R10·95 crores (£7·3 millions) to R12·47 crores (£8·31 millions). *Tanned hides* at R1·39 crores (£930,000) showed a gain of R34·10 lakhs (£227,000), but *tanned skins* at R2·73 crores (£1·82 millions) lost R11·22 lakhs (£75,000).

**Articles of food and drink** show the largest decline in any one class in the year under review. It amounted to no less than R12·19 crores (£8·13 millions) or 27·2 per cent, bringing the total value down to R32·54 crores (£21·69 millions) as compared with R44·73 crores (£29·82 millions) in 1907-08. Of this class *Wheat and wheat flour* represented 20·4 per cent in 1907-08 and stood at R9·14 crores (£6·09 millions). In 1908-09 the extensive failure of the crop and the high level of internal prices reduced the value of these exports to R1·86 crores (£1·24 millions), the contraction of R7·28 crores (£4·85 millions) representing 79·6 per cent of the previous year's figures. The high internal prices of food grains also contributed to the fall of R4·45 crores (£3 millions) or 21·9 per cent in the exports of rice, which amounted to only R15·89 crores (£10·6 millions) in place of R20·34 crores (£13·56 millions) in 1907-08. *Other food grains* at R·82 crore (£·55 million) showed a decline of R1·21 crores (£·81 million), or 59·9 per cent. All the other articles of food and drink showed increases. *Tea* rose by R9·34 lakhs (£62,300) to R10·39 crores (£6·93 millions). *Coffee* rose by R27·54 lakhs (£184,000) to R1·39 crores (£·93 million). *Fruits* rose by R31·34 lakhs (£209,000) to R69·58 lakhs (£464,000), and *Spices* by R5·83 lakhs (£39,000) to R58·53 lakhs (£390,000).

**Exports of Metals and manufactures thereof** in 1907-08 represented ·64 per cent of the total exports. In 1908-09 they represented ·58 per cent. They declined by R23·89 lakhs (£159,000) or 21·6 per cent to R86·75 lakhs (£578,000), and of this fall **Manganese ore,** with a value of R72·64 lakhs (£484,000), contributed R13·25 lakhs (£88,000).

**Chemicals and drugs** have recovered part of the ground lost in 1907-08, and, with an advance of R43·51 lakhs (£290,000), stand now at R11·47 crores (£7·65 millions), as against R11·56 crores (£7·71 millions) two years ago.

**Exports of Oils** form a less important item with a total of R94·44 lakhs (£630,000); but this shows a net advance of R8·62 lakhs (£57,500), as compared with the "record" of R1·03 crores (£·69 million) in 1903-04. *Mineral Oil* (including wax) at R23·83 lakhs (£159,000) declined by R1·25 lakhs (£8,300) but vegetable and other oils at R70·62 lakhs (£471,000) rose by R9·88 lakhs (£66,000).

In **Re-exports of Foreign merchandise,** which represent 2·07 per cent of the total export, the total value is R3·17 crores (£2·11 millions) as against R3·77 crores (£2·51 millions) in 1907-08. The decline is one of R60 lakhs (£·4 million) or 15·9 per cent. The largest single item in this class is as usual **Cotton manufactures** (including *Twist and Yarn*) with a total of R1·13 crores (£753,000), which is less by R35·73 lakhs (£238,000) than the R1·48 crores (£987,000) of 1907-08. **Metals and hardware** showed a further decrease of R10·3 lakhs (£68,700), bringing the total to R23·97 lakhs (£160,000) in place of R34·27 lakhs (£228,000). **Raw wool** fell by R4·85 lakhs (£32,000) to R27·91 lakhs (£186,000); **Provisions** by R1·30 lakhs (£8,700) to R18·33 lakhs (£122,000), **Apparel** by R3·97 lakhs (£26,500) to R 5·03 lakhs (£100,000), **Oils** by R39,852 (£2,660), and other articles by R4·73 lakhs (£31,500). **Sugar** alone with a total value of R11·73 lakhs (£78,200) marked an advance, which amounted to R1·63 lakhs (£10,900).

## IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE

This section of India's sea-borne trade forms about 40·5 per cent of the whole. Its value in 1907-08 was R129·89 crores (£86·6 millions), but in the year under review it receded to R121·26 crores (£80·84 millions). The loss of R8·63 crores (£5·76 millions) represents 6·6 per cent of the previous year's figures; but it leaves the total largely in advance of any year anterior to 1907-08. The following statement compares the value of the imports in 1908-09 with the average values for each quinquennial period from 1880-81 to 1904-05 and the value in each year since that date (000's omitted). It shows also the centesimal variations, the average value from 1880-81 to 1884-85 being taken as 100:

| | R | £ | Variation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 . | 50,63,14 = | 41,444 | 100 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 . | 61,19,76 | 43,624 | 120·9 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 . | 68,47,04 | 44,192 | 135·2 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . | 69,89,38 | 43,995 | 138 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 . | 83,61,72 | 55,745 | 165·1 |
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 103,08,40 | 68,723 | 203·6 |
| 1906-07 . . . . . | 108,30,76 | 72,205 | 213·9 |
| 1907-08 . . . . . | 129,89,51 | 86,597 | 256·5 |
| 1908-09 . . . . . | 121,26,57 | 80,844 | 239·5 |

The value of each of the seven classes in which the articles are grouped was, in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling :**

| | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| I Animals living (mostly horses) . . | 59,28 = | 395 | 49,41 = | 329 | 46,56 = | 310 | 44,10 = | 294 | 30,56 = | 204 |
| II Articles of food and drink . . . | 13,08,65 | 8,724 | 14,58,61 | 9,724 | 15,71,53 | 10,477 | 17,13,42 | 11,423 | 19,52,64 | 13,018 |
| III Metals and manufactures of metals . | 17,13,50 | 11,423 | 17,85,67 | 11,905 | 22,64,19 | 15,095 | 30,14,30 | 20,095 | 29,96,46 | 19,976 |
| IV Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyes . . | 2,80,41 | 1,869 | 2,97,27 | 1,982 | 3,10,86 | 2,072 | 3,58,85 | 2,392 | 3,27,16 | 2,181 |
| V Oils . . . . | 3,49,31 | 2,329 | 2,44,46 | 1,630 | 2,76,78 | 1,845 | 3,69,49 | 2,463 | 4,15,85 | 2,772 |
| VI Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . . | 4,22,41 | 2,816 | 4,86,13 | 3,241 | 4,39,82 | 2,932 | 5,00,40 | 3,336 | 4,78,64 | 3,191 |
| VII Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . . . | 55,34,27 | 36,895 | 59,86,85 | 39,912 | 59,21,02 | 39,474 | 69,88,95 | 46,593 | 59,25,26 | 39,502 |

Of these, the class **Articles manufactured and partly manufactured** contributes the largest sum. In 1906-07 it formed nearly 55 per cent of the total and in 1907-08 about 54 per cent. In 1908-09, the percentage dropped to 48·8 per cent, and the aggregate in this class fell away from the record figure of ₹69·89 crores (£46·59 millions) to ₹59·25 crores (£39·5 millions). The decline of ₹10·64 crores (£7·1 millions) represents 15·2 per cent of the previous year's figure. The total decline in **Cotton goods** was little less, and amounted to ₹10·03 crores (£6·7 millions) or 20·9 per cent. The total value fell from ₹48·04 crores (£32·03 millions) to ₹38·01 crores (£25·34 millions). **Grey goods,** with a value of ₹15·19 crores (£10·13 millions), represent about 40 per cent of the cotton goods; and the decline of ₹4·23 crores (£2·82 millions) in this class is not only large but represents a contraction of nearly 22 per cent. **White goods** on the other hand fell to ₹ 7·78 crores (£5·2 millions), the loss here being nearly as heavy as in the much larger grey class. **Coloured goods,** at ₹9·25 crores (£6·17 millions), showed a decline of ₹1·55 crores (£1·03 millions), while yarns, at ₹3·65 crores (£2·43 millions), showed a decline of ₹4·44 lakhs (£29,600). **Silk and woollen goods** on the other hand each show an increase of about ₹14 lakhs (£93,600), while **Apparel** shared the general decline and lost ₹16·57 lakhs (£110,000) in value. Other notable declines in this class were ₹27·58 lakhs (£184,000) in **glass** and **glassware** and ₹25·22 lakhs (£168,000) in **carriages.**

The third class, **Metals and manufactures thereof,** comes next in importance. Its total value fell from ₹30·14 crores (£20·09 millions) to ₹29·96 crores (£19·97 millions), the net drop being one of ₹17·84 lakhs (£118,900) or 0·6 per cent; but owing to the heavier declines under some other heads, its share of the total rose from 23·2 per cent to 24·7 per cent. **Railway plant,** with a total of ₹7·42 crores (£4·95 millions) contributed an increase of ₹21·91 lakhs (£146,000) to the credit side of this class; and there were increases of ₹3·06 lakhs (£20,400) and ₹65·79 lakhs (£438,600) under **machinery** and **copper** respectively. The total value of **metals** fell from ₹13·19 crores (£8·79 millions) to ₹13 crores (£8·66 millions), the net loss being ₹19 lakhs (£130,000), which resulted from a fall of ₹ 70·77 lakhs (£471,800) or 7·3 per cent under **Iron and steel,** offset in part by a rise of ₹65·79 lakhs (£438,600) or 32 per cent in **copper. Hardware and cutlery** fell by ₹23·96 lakhs (£159,700) to ₹2·93 crores (£1·95 millions).

In the second class, **Articles of food and drink,** which represents some 16 per cent of the total imports of merchandise, there was a continued increase amounting to ₹2·39 crores (£1·6 millions) or 14 per cent, which

brought the total to R19·53 crores (£13·02 millions). Of this increase 70 per cent, or R1·68 crores (1·12 millions), was contributed by sugar with a total of R10·91 crores (£7·27 millions), which is 18 per cent more than in 1907-08. The imports of **wheat** rose to R39·58 lakhs (£264,000), **rice not in the husk** to R44·03 lakhs (£294,000), **provisions** to R2·81 crores (£1·87 millions)—the increase being R7·32 lakhs (£49,000)—while **spices** fell, by R18·77 lakhs (£125,000), to R1·37 crores (£915,000).

**Chemicals, drugs, etc.,** showed a net decline of R31·6 lakhs (£211,000), of which **drugs and medicines** account for R18·1 lakhs (£120,000) and **tobacco, chemicals,** and **mineral dyes** about R4 lakhs (£30,000) each.

The growth in the imports of **oils** was maintained, the total rising by R46·36 lakhs (£309,000) to R4·16 crores (£2·77 millions). This increase proceeded solely from the arrivals of **mineral oils** from the United States of America and Sumatra, which showed at R3·91 crores (£2·6 millions) an advance of R71·57 lakhs (£477,000) offset in part by a decline of R25·22 lakhs (£168,000) or 50 per cent in **other oils**.

In **Raw materials** at R4·79 crores (£3·19 millions) there was a net decline of R21·75 lakhs (£145,000). This was due to contractions of R17·95 lakhs (£119,600) in **precious stones** and R17·92 lakhs (£119,500) in **raw cotton,** against which were increases of R22·89 lakhs (£152,600) in **coal,** R3·7 lakhs (£25,000) in **raw silk,** and R5·1 lakhs (£34,000) in **seeds**.

## ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

The value in rupees during the last three years of the principal articles in this group have been—

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Sugar | 8,73,81,114 | =5,825,407 | 9,22,70,442 | =6,151,363 | 10,90,66,089 | =7,271,073 |
| Provisions | 2,42,33,411 | 1,615,561 | 2,74,00,093 | 1,826,673 | 2,81,32,217 | 1,875,481 |
| Liquors | 1,85,67,661 | 1,237,844 | 2,00,49,118 | 1,336,608 | 1,98,49,839 | 1,323,323 |
| Spices | 1,43,92,903 | 959,527 | 1,56,16,955 | 1,041,130 | 1,37,39,983 | 915,999 |
| Grain and pulse | 28,24,537 | 188,302 | 36,71,881 | 244,792 | 1,23,36,419 | 822,428 |
| Salt | 66,77,390 | 445,159 | 80,21,186 | 534,746 | 84,07 598 | 560.507 |
| Tea | 16,14,880 | 107,658 | 22,73,457 | 151,564 | 21,56,304 | 143,754 |
| Fruits and Vegetables | 9,05,858 | 60,390 | 14,99,727 | 99,982 | 10,94,941 | 72,996 |

**Sugar** represents 55·8 per cent of the total value of articles of food and drink imported into India, and it not only maintains but continuously strengthens its position as the second largest single article of importation in any class. The total value of the trade is now about 7·27 millions sterling.

The average prices of 88 per cent beet f. o. b. Hamburg in the last four years have been as follows: 1905, 11*s.*6½*d.*, 1906, 8*s.*7½*d.*, 1907, 9*s.*5½*d.*, 1908, 10*s.*5*d.*

The world's sugar trade in 1908 was once more largely affected by Cuban conditions. Two years ago the disturbing influences were political. In 1908, as in 1907, they were statistical and arose from an initial overestimate of the cane crop in Cuba. It had been supposed that the crop in question would suffice to render the United States largely independent of further supplies from the European beet market; and the price of 88 per cent sugar f. o. b. Hamburg was rather under 10*s.* in January. The error in computation was suspected

when the shutting down of successive factories in February indicated that the Cuba cane crop was nearly exhausted, while the production of sugar still fell greatly short of what had been looked for. Prices for both descriptions of sugar at once began to rise, holders of Cubans became exacting, and America was driven to the European beet markets. These responded; and by April when the Indian statistical year began, the price had gone above 11*s*. The 27th of April saw it at 11*s*. 11¼*d*. with Java and Peruvian crystals (96 per cent polarization) at 12*s*. 6*d*. to 12*s*. 9*d*. On the 7th May the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced a reduction of the sugar duties from 4*s*. 2*d*. to 1*s*. 10*d*. as regards refined, with *pro rata* reduction on raw. The reduction had not been generally expected; but it produced little effect on the market, and the liquidation of the May account brought about a substantial reaction, which was checked only when the demand from America and elsewhere was renewed. But when this had been satisfied largely from cane sources the market became easier and the weakness was intensified by cautious sales in anticipation of the arrival of considerable Russian supplies in September. The signatories of the Brussels Sugar Convention (which in February was extended for a further period of five years) had sanctioned the export by Russia of 200,000 tons annually to Convention countries, and this concession was to come into force in September. Prices were further depressed by the early and heavy arrivals of Java sugars in the United States markets; and at the end of August the quotation for 88 per cent beet was down at 9*s*. 3¾*d*. The arrivals of Russian in September were less than had been expected, but by that month the new beet crop was in sight, and it became available in early October at 9*s*. 6*d*. Since that time prices have been fairly steady at or about 10*s*.

In Calcutta the price was R10-14 (14*s*. 6*d*.) per cwt at the beginning of April, with Bombay practically at the same parity in respect of European and Mauritius supplies. May saw R11-4 (15*s*.) in Calcutta and R11 (14*s*. 8*d*.) in Bombay for beet, while the highest for Mauritius (*i.e.*, R10-12 or 14*s*. 4*d*.) had been recorded in Bombay in April. After this, the Indian market conformed approximately to the movements of the world's demand; and prices at end of March closed at R10-7 (13*s*. 11*d*.) Calcutta, R10-10 (14*s*. 2*d*.) Bombay, and R10-3 (13*s*. 7*d*.) for Mauritius No. 1 Bombay.

The arrivals of beet and of cane sugar in each of the last five years are shown in the following statement (**in cwts**). In earlier reports it has been the practice to accept the country of shipment as the country of origin. It is now for the first time possible to assign shipments to the countries in which the sugar was produced. This brings out some remarkable facts, as for instance that in 1906-07—when Germany was, under the old system, statistically shown as having made larger shipments to India than had come from Austria-Hungary—the latter did in reality retain her first place as purveyor of beet sugar.

| | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Cane*— | | | | | |
| From Mauritius . | 1,823,826 | 2,013,632 | 2,310,177 | 2,600,193 | 2,514,440 |
| „ Reunion . | 20,974 | 35 269 | 109,090 | 23,587 | 19,505 |
| „ China . . | 35,400 | 27,731 | 5,423 | 7,340 | 6,384 |
| „ Java . . | 2,546,066 | 2,007,449 | 3,467,358 | 6,593,669 | 6,172,039 |
| „ Straits Settlements . . | 44,886 | 10,107 | 6,132 | 11,787 | 804 |
| „ Other countries | 362,157 | 168,741 | 28,668 | 14,265 | 6,087 |
| Total . | 4,833,309 | 4,262,929 | 5,926,848 | 9,250,841 | 8,719,259 |

| | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Beet*— | | | | | |
| From Austria-Hungary | 1,505,345 | 2,453,733 | 2,016,803 | 730,265 | 1,918,158 |
| „ Germany . | 151,126 | 630,416 | 1,657,679 | 51,879 | 3,071 |
| „ Belgium . | 7,023 | 122,445 | 104,104 | 1,302 | 988 |
| „ France . . | 40,806 | 224,443 | 23,826 | 9,782 | 472 |
| „ Other countries | 12,188 | 2,225 | 1,422 | 832 | 21,335 |
| Total . | 1,716,488 | 3,433,262 | 3,803,834 | 794,060 | 1,944,024 |
| Total Sugar, excluding molasses and confectionery . . . | 6,549,797 | 7,696,191 | 9,730,682 | 10,044,901 | 10,663,283 |
| Value ₹ | 6,71,08,487 | 7,50,02,109 | 8,18,28,277 | 8,79,19,287 | 10,40,97,056 |
| Value =£ | 4,473,899 | 5,000,141 | 5,455,218 | 5,861,286 | 6,939,804 |

Having regard to the facts that India is probably the largest producer of sugar in the world, that her crop is equivalent to about 5,000,000 tons of potential sugar, that her population approaches 300,000,000, and that sugar as an article of diet is singularly suited to the populace of a warm country, the rapid, continuous, and enormous expansion in this import trade is the most striking fact in recent Indian commerce It is therefore interesting to subject the figures to some analysis. The following statement shows the yearly progress in each of the two classes of sugar absolutely and in relation to the total :

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Beet | Cane | Total | Beet | Cane | Total | Beet | Cane | Total |
| Percentage of total quantity . . . . | 39·1 | 60·9 | 100 | 7·9 | 92·1 | 100 | 18·2 | 81·8 | 100 |
| Percentage of total value . | 40·5 | 59·5 | 100 | 8·6 | 91·4 | 100 | 18·9 | 81·1 | 100 |
| Increase (+) or decrease (−) in total quantity . | +10·8 | +39 | +26·4 | −79·1 | +56·1 | +3·2 | +145 | −5·7 | +6·1 |
| Increase (+) or decrease (—) in total value . | +4·4 | +12·5 | +9·1 | −77·3 | +65·3 | +7·4 | +162 | +4·9 | +18·4 |
| Average value per cwt ₹ | 8·72 | 8·21 | 8·41 | 9·48 | 8·69 | 8·75 | 10·15 | 9·68 | 9·76 |
| =*s* | 11·62 | 10·95 | 11·21 | 12·64 | 11·58 | 11·6 | 13·53 | 12·9 | 13 |

There is an impression that the cultivation of sugar-cane in India is contracting seriously under the pressure of these external supplies. It cannot be said that the available statistics prove this to be true. For instance, the acreage of the current year's crop is estimated at 2,184,000 acres against 2,192,700 acres the average of the last five years, while the area in 1907-08 was estimated at 2,639,200 acres. But the crop is often grown in small patches which defy estimate altogether; and it is to be remembered that the great mass of the sugar cane of India is not converted into crystalline sugar but is consumed in the form of crude sugar or **gur.** This is more nutritious than refined sugar and a demand for it will certainly persist. It is therefore not accurately known to what extent the competition of foreign sugar affects the indigenous industry, more particularly in the interior. At the same time, it is difficult to imagine that importation of foreign sugar at the rate of 500,000 tons yearly (giving about 4 lbs per head of the population) can be continued without affecting the internal industry as a whole. Efforts are being made to improve the methods of manufacture on a large and on a small scale; but, so far as is known, the fundamental principle of the "central factory" so-called has never been adequately practised in India. The cane—when cane is crushed—is for the most part procured in comparatively small lots and often from considerable distances, with the result that it deteriorates before reaching the rolls. In all

other countries where cane sugar is produced on a competitive footing, the "central factory" is a factory situated in the centre of a tract of land reserved for sugar and its rotation crops only. All the cane is therefore as near the mill as possible, and the operations of cultivation and cutting are under close supervision. The immediate triumph of this system over all others is shown both by the history of Porto Rico and by the recent regeneration of the sugar industry in Formosa by the Japanese. And since so great a superiority exists, it seems improbable that India will ever be able to defend its markets against the foreigner unless she takes a leaf out of the foreigner's book and accepts as indispensable those principles which elsewhere are regarded as absolute. This is the more necessary as the prospective large increase of Formosa supplies will probably supplant Java's surplus in the Japanese markets and divert the stream more strongly towards India.

Cane sugar represents some 40 per cent of the world's supply of sugar external to India; but, in spite of the existence of large internal supplies of cane sugar, its share in the import business of 1908-09 was no less than 81·8 per cent, while in 1907-08 it was 92 per cent. The chief **sources** of cane sugar continue to be Java and Mauritius, while in respect of beet sugar Austria has uniformly retained the dominant place.

The imports of **sugar of both kinds** together expanded by a further 618,400 cwts and by R161·77 lakhs (£1,078,000). The increases were thus 6·1 per cent in quantity and 18·4 per cent in value, marking a rise of 11·5 per cent in the specific value per unit.

The imports of **cane sugar** contracted by 531,582 cwts or 5·7 per cent, while, in consequence of a rise of some 11·4 per cent in the specific value, the total value showed an improvement of R39·73 lakhs (£265,000) or 4·9 per cent. The greater part of the contraction in quantity is traceable to the diminution in Java's shipments to India, although Mauritius also suffered.

In **beet sugar** the quantitative increase is an enormous one of about 1,150,030 cwts (equal to 145 per cent on the figures of the previous year), while the increase in value is one of R122·04 lakhs (£814,000) or 162 per cent, the enhancement in specific value being 7·1 per cent.

In **refined sugar** Java, in spite of the large contraction in her total, still greatly exceeds any other source of supply. Her aggregate was 5,355,309 cwts as against 5,951,462 cwts in 1907-08; and Mauritius, another cane country, came second with 2,486,986 cwts against 2,600,097 cwts in 1907-08. Austria, though taking the first place as a source of beet and though nearly trebling its shipments of the previous year, comes third in refined sugar with 1,878,062 cwts, while Germany's contribution was only 59,546 cwts.

**Provisions**—This term, as applied to foreign merchandise, covers a number of heads, and several of these are of a very comprehensive character, though representing small amounts. The total value is R281·32 lakhs (£1,875,500) as against R274 lakhs (£ 1,826,700) in 1907-08. This represents 14·4 per cent of the value of all articles of food and drink imported, and shows an increase of R7·32 lakhs (£48,800) or 2·7 per cent. **Dried fruits** consist mainly of almonds and dates, but comprise many other fruits imported, in small quantities. The total in this class is R83·4 lakhs (£ 556,000) as against R84·9 lakhs (£ 566,000) in 1907-08. The largest single item is that o **dates**, which has receded in total value from R50·5 lakhs (£336,700) **to** R46·3 lakhs (£308,000), and in quantity from 849,952 cwts to 817,662 cwts. This marks

a decline of 8·4 per cent in total value and 3·8 per cent in quantity, the difference indicating a fall of 4·7 per cent in the specific value. The trade in **salted fish**, which had advanced to R27·18 lakhs (£181,200) in 1907-08, progressed to R27·59 lakhs (£183,900) in the year under review; and the continuous development in the importation of **biscuits** was maintained with a rise from R25·02 lakhs (£166,800) to R28·08 lakhs (£187,200). Other important items which show progressive trade are **canned provisions** and **farinaceous foods**, each of which exceeds R32 lakhs (£ 213,000), and **preserved milk** R22·72 lakhs (£151,400). The comprehensive category of Provisions "**other sorts**", which had slightly risen in 1907-08 from R32·26 lakhs (£215,000) to R33·3 lakhs (£222,000), receded again to R31 lakhs (£207,000), the further drop being one of 6·7 per cent.

**Liquors** are statistically distinguished as malt-liquors, spirits, and wines. In all three classes there was for some years a tendency to decline in quantity, in value, and in average value per unit. The following statement summarises the trade of the last three years and shows that the decline has been partly checked:

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Gals | ₹ | £ | Gals | ₹ | £ | Gals | ₹ | £ |
| Malt-liquors | 4,926,513 | 60,58,336= | 403,889 | 4,889,171 | 61,38,973= | 409,265 | 4,307,153 | 58,50,910== | 390,061 |
| Spirits | 1,488,361 | 98,69,497 | 657,966 | 1,660,292 | 1,10,44,021 | 736,268 | 1,681,887 | 1,12,68,228 | 751,215 |
| Wines | 329,342 | 26,39,828 | 175,988 | 347,051 | 28,66,124 | 191,075 | 337,724 | 27,30,701 | 182,047 |

The total value, R198·5 lakhs (£1,323,300), represents 10·2 per cent of the imports of articles of food and drink, and is less by R2 lakhs (£13,300) than in 1907-08.

In **Malt-liquors** the decline is one of 11·9 per cent in quantity and 4·7 per cent in value, the difference marking a recovery of 8 per cent in the specific value. From the United Kingdom came 89·2 per cent of the whole as against 91·4 per cent in 1907-08; while the share of Germany increased from 7·7 to 9·7 per cent with an increase of 10·6 per cent in her total quantity, and other foreign countries supplied 1·1 per cent in place of ·9 per cent.

These import figures do not represent the consumption of malt-liquors in India, seeing that in 1908 Indian breweries produced 5,185,619 gallons against 5,610,121 gallons in 1907. This marks a decline of 424,500 gallons in Indian production and brings the total decline in the last five years to 1,034,142 gallons or 16·6 per cent.

The factor of indigenous production is even more dominant in respect of **spirits**. The following statement shows the totals in gallons of all spirits including liqueurs and methylated and perfumed spirits, imported from the several countries in the last three years; and below the totals, are noted the quantities of spirit issued from Indian distilleries:

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom | 766,686 | 815,860 | 841,867 |
| „ France | 256,472 | 306,473 | 297,499 |
| „ Germany | 193,575 | 210,112 | 161,071 |
| „ Other countries | 271,628 | 327,847 | 381,450 |
| TOTAL | 1,488,361 | 1,660,292 | 1,681,887 |
| Issued from Indian distilleries | 8,258,233 | 9,052,738 | 8,339,989 |

The enhancement of the import duty under the Indian Tariff (Amendment Act) of 1906 has not had the effect of restricting the imports. The increases of

21,595 gallons in quantity and of R2·24 lakhs (£15,000) in value are equivalent to 1·3 per cent and 2 per cent respectively, and the difference marks an advance of ·8 per cent in the specific value exclusive of duty.

The potable spirits of "other sorts" from other countries are chiefly *arrack* from Ceylon, rum from the Straits and Java, and gin from Holland.

The quantities of the principal descriptions of potable spirits imported were (in gallons) :.

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Whisky | 592,514 | 635,834 | 681,401 |
| Brandy | 333,957 | 399,603 | 376 477 |
| Gin | 68,575 | 77,139 | 84,160 |
| Rum | 65,579 | 71,433 | 64,144 |
| Other sorts | 143,125 | 147,496 | 174,731 |
| TOTAL | 1,203,750 | 1,331,505 | 1,380,913 |

In imports of **wines,** as in many other articles, there appears to be an alternation of increase and decrease. The net effect of these movements since 1903-04 has been a rise of 1·4 per cent in quantity but a decline of ·6 per cent in value and a drop of 1·7 per cent in the average value per gallon. In the year under review the decline has been one of 2·7 per cent in quantity and 4·7 per cent in value, marking a further loss of 2·1 per cent in average value, which is now R8·085 (10·78*s.*) instead of R 8·258 (11·011*s.*) per gallon. The total quantity and value were 337,724 gallons and R27·3 lakhs (£182,000) as against 347,051 gallons and R28·6 lakhs (£191,000) in 1907-08.

The growth in the **Imports of spices** is maintained by some 1·15 per cent in quantity; but there has been a decline of 12 per cent in the total value, which now stands at R137·4 lakhs (£916,000). **Betelnuts** with a quantity of 48,900 tons as against 50,687 tons in 1907-08, showed a value of R80·78 lakhs (£538,500), which is less by 24 per cent than in 1907-08. Of this article 80 per cent came from the Straits Settlements, 62·8 per cent being landed in Calcutta and 24·5 per cent in Madras. Cloves come principally from Zanzibar. The total trade had increased in 1907-08 by 1,197 tons to 3,457 tons, but in the year under review declined to 3,236 tons with a value of R24·91 lakhs (£166,100). These represented a decline of 6·4 per cent in quantity and 6·9 per cent in value, attended by a diminution of ·6 per cent in specific value.

**Grain and pulse**—This trade temporarily assumed important dimensions last year in consequence of the scarcity prevailing in parts of the country. A comparison of the figures (in tons) of the trade for the last two years is of some interest:

| | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|
| Rice | 3,718 | 32,739 |
| Wheat | 12,783 | 28,948 |
| „ flour | 2,438 | 6,651 |
| Pulse | 7,878 | 20,827 |
| Gram | 87 | 133 |
| Barley | 161 | 2 |
| Jawár and bájra | 1,506 | 443 |
| Oats | 40 | 181 |
| Other sorts | 614 | 5,476 |
| Total | 29,225 | 95,400 |

The total imports increased from 29,225 tons valued at R36·72 lakhs (£244,800) to 95,400 tons valued at R123·36 lakhs (£822,400). The most

noticeable increases are under **rice not in the husk** from 3,478 tons and R4·98 lakhs (£33,200) to 30,987 tons and R44·05 lakhs (£293,700), **wheat and wheat flour** from 15,221 tons and R20·46 lakhs (£136,400) to 35,599 tons and R49·75 lakhs (£331,700), and **pulse** from 7,878 tons and R8·52 lakhs (£56,800) to 20,827 tons and R21·28 lakhs (£ 142,000).

Rice was imported chiefly from the Straits Settlements, the receipts from that place amounting to 30,573 tons as compared with 3,176 tons in the previous year. Imports of wheat from Australia rose by 16,678 tons to 19,697 tons and those from Asiatic Turkey, at 8,987 tons, showed an increase of 694 tons. Imports of pulse also showed noticeable increase, 13,463 tons being received from Hongkong and 1,541 tons from the Straits Settlements. The following statement shows the imports of the principal kinds of grain and pulse into Bengal and Bombay during the last two years, *in tons*:

| | Into Bengal | | Into Bombay | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
| Rice . . . . . | 995 | 5,136 | 2,660 | 20,888 |
| Wheat . . . . . | 3,019 | 8,891 | 9,549 | 18,787 |
| Pulse . . . . . | 701 | 7,733 | 6,511 | 10,630 |

**Salt** represents 4·3 per cent of the value of articles of food and drink imported. The quantity and value have been as follows in the last five years:

| | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Quantity . . tons | 486,980 | 464,531 | 467,949 | 558,684 | 588,887 |
| Value, unit, R1,000 . | 71,13 | 65,72 | 66,77 | 80,21 | 84,07 |
| =£1,000 . | 4,74 | 4,38 | 4,45 | 5,35 | 5,60 |

Thus for two successive years there have been increases which have not only recouped the declines recorded in the previous years, under the influence of the boycott movement, but have established a net advance of 20·9 per cent in quantity and 18·2 per cent in value over the figures of 1904-05. In 1908-09 the increase in quantity was one of 30,203 tons or 5·4 per cent and the increase in value amounted to R3·86 lakhs (£25,700) or 4·8 per cent.

The duty on salt, which for provinces other than Burma was R2-8 (3*s.* 4*d.*) per maund up to 1902-03 (Burma having always enjoyed the rate of R1 (1*s.* 4*d.*) now universal in India), was in that year reduced to R2 (2*s.* 8*d.*) and consumption grew by 3 per cent to 1,346,830 tons. In 1903-04, although the duty remained unchanged, the consumption grew by 2·6 per cent, and in 1904-05 it advanced by 4 per cent on reduction of the duty to R1-8 (2*s.*). In 1905-06 no further reduction was made, and consumption receded by 1·4 per cent. In 1906-07 the present rate of R1 (1*s.* 4*d.*) per maund was adopted, and consumption improved by 5 per cent. This was continued with a further rise of 4 per cent in 1907-08, and it is estimated that in 1908-09 the consumption has advanced by 7·8 per cent to 1,668,14 tons.

In the beginning of the statistical year the depressed condition of agriculture greatly restricted the consumption but the favourable rains in September brought about a rapid recovery in demand. The price of Liverpool salt ex-warehouse in Calcutta stood at R50 (£3 6*s.* 8*d.*) per 100 maunds (*i.e*, per 8,229 lbs) at the end of the financial year 1907-08, but hopes were entertained of a further reduction of duty and importation had for this reason been deferred. The marke was therefore bare, and when the Budget statement was found to contain no proposals for a reduction of duty, holders of local stocks succeeded in jumping

the price for a short time to R66 (£4 8*s.*) From this point, however, it rapidly subsided to R54 (£3 12*s.*) in May and after a rally to R56 (£3 14*s.* 8*d.*) in June dropped to R49 (£3 5*s.* 4*d.*), at which rate it remained during September, October, and November. December showed a small recovery of R2 (2*s.* 8*d.*) but this was lost in January and during February and March the price stood at R47 (£3 2*s.* 8*d.*) The average price in 1908-09 has been about R51-5-4 (£3 8*s.* 5*d.*) as compared with R55-6-8½ (£3 13*s.* 11*d.*) in the previous year.

**Tea**—The extraordinary increase in the imports of tea, which in 1907-08 brought the total to 3,910,714 lbs with a value of R22·73 lakhs (£151,500), was relaxed in 1908-09; but there was a continued growth of 13·7 per cent in quantity and the figures rose to 4,447,506 lbs, but the value declined to R21·56 lakhs (£143,700). The fall in total value amounted to only 5·1 per cent; so that there was a fall of nearly 17 per cent in the average value per unit, which was 7 annas 9 pies (7¾*d*) per lb. Of the additional 536,800 lbs received, 391,000 lbs came from Ceylon, this representing an increase of 27·5 per cent in her contribution, and bringing her shipments to a total of 1,812,827 lbs. This is in keeping with the general increase in Ceylon's exports during the year under review; and the fall in average value from 7·5 to 6·9 annas (or pence) accords with her general experience in prices. The imports of China teas (black and green) showed a net advance of 308,500 lbs, or 20·3 per cent, bringing the total to 1,829,659 lbs. Of this 1,495,585 lbs. were green tea, which showed an expansion of about 34 per cent; while black tea declined by 17·4 per cent to 334,074 lbs. Estimates of re-exportation must be taken with some reserve; for it is known that, more especially on the land routes, foreign tea is not always accurately distinguished from Indian tea. But if the figures be accepted as correct, 833,996 lbs were re-exported by sea and 423,920 lbs by land, making a total of 1,257,916 lbs of which 90 per cent was black tea. On the average of the last five years, it would appear that some 4,939,000 lbs of foreign tea are yearly retained for consumption in India.

**Fruits and vegetables**—The total value of this trade is R10·95 lakhs (£73,000) as against R15 lakhs (£100,000) in 1907-08. **Cocoanuts** declined from R5·12 lakhs (£34,000) to R4·83 lakhs (£32,000); while **Copra**—which is strictly a raw material for the oil industry and from which butter substitutes are now being made in Southern India—dropped to R1·59 lakhs (£10,600), from R2·27 lakhs (£15,000). **Other sorts** fell from R7·6 lakhs (£50,600) to R4·53 lakhs (£30,200).

## METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS

**Hardware and cutlery** form 9·8 per cent of the total value of imports of metals and manufactures of metals. From the following statement it will appear that their value has declined by R23·96 lakhs (£159,700) or 7·6 per cent:

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *R* | £ | *R* | £ | *R* | £ |
| Cutlery | 14,68,040= | 93,869 | 18,29,627= | 121,975 | 17,51,714— | 116,781 |
| Agricultural implements | 10,55,914 | 70,394 | 13,27,478 | 88,498 | 9,06,489 | 60,433 |
| Other implements and tools | 16,56,855 | 110,455 | 19,53,151 | 130,210 | 19,97,750 | 133,183 |
| Enamelled ironware | 18,78,959 | 125,264 | 24,48,803 | 163,254 | 18,00,371 | 120,025 |
| Sewing machines | 11,79,722 | 78,648 | 11,43,342 | 76,223 | 12,20,501 | 81,367 |
| Unspecified hardware | 1,93,55,598 | 1,290,373 | 2,29,52,162 | 1,530,144 | 2,14,91,357 | 1,432,757 |
| TOTAL | 2,65,35,058 | 1,769,003 | 3,10,54,563 | 2,110,304 | 2,72,58,182 | 1,950,546 |

The heading is so composite and comprises articles of so heterogeneous a nature that it is impossible to show briefly in what measure any general variation in the specific value of metal articles has contributed to the fluctuation in the statistics. **Enamelled ironware** is an item of peculiar interest, and its steady growth in recent years has indicated the extent to which the high prices of copper and brass had compelled the common people to replace their distinctive domestic utensils of those metals with cheap Austrian and German ware. It is impossible therefore to dissociate the reaction which appears in the figures given above, which mark a decline of R6·48 lakhs (£43,200) or 26·5 per cent, from the large increase (72·44 per cent) in the quantity of wrought copper imported. Austria has now recovered the premier place in this trade, which she ceded to Germany in 1905-06, and has done 63·2 per cent of the whole business instead of 29·7 per cent, while Germany has taken second place and now does 23·6 per cent in place of 61·5 per cent in 1907-08. The item of second importance is **Implements and tools other than agricultural**, and it alone shows an advance which, however, amounts only to about 2½ per cent. In **Cutlery** there has been a decline of 4·2 per cent and in **Agricultural implements** there has been a set back of 24·9 per cent, which however still leaves the figures well in advance of those for 1905-06 and little short of those for 1906-07. The extensive failure of crops must have been the main cause of the reaction ; but it may have been promoted by the disappointment felt in some places as a result of incautious importation and purchase of implements not quite suitable to Indian conditions. The value of **unspecified hardware** contracted by R14·61 lakhs (£97,400) or 6·4 per cent ; and this head covers **lampware** which decreased by R2·48 lakhs (£16,500) or 9·2 per cent. This contraction is due to hard times. The trade in lampware has risen in the last four years from R17·52 lakhs (£116,800) to R24·41 lakhs (£162,700), and everything points to its further development. The superiority, cheapness, and wide distribution of kerosene have led to an almost general abandonment of vegetable illuminants among the people ; and it seems probable that a considerable trade might now be created in cooking lamps costing about R2 (2*s.* 8*d*). Much of the cooking by the common people in India is done with dried cow-dung as fuel. This leads to the destruction of manure which becomes increasingly important as soil exhaustion progresses. Tests conducted in 1908 show that, if the manurial value of the cow-dung be taken into consideration, its cost as fuel is such that the number of British thermal units practically obtainable for an expenditure of one rupee is 100,174 against 148,750 B. T. U. for an equal expenditure on kerosene burned in such a lamp as is suggested.

The share of the United Kingdom in **Hardware and cutlery** trade, while showing centesimally a rise from 62·8 per cent to 66·6 per cent declined absolutely by R3·65 lakhs (£24,300) or 1·8 per cent to R195·01 lakhs (£1,300,000). Germany's share declined relatively from 18·4 per cent to 12·9 per cent and absolutely by R20·6 lakhs (£137,000) or 35·4 per cent to R37·65 lakhs (£251,000). Although greater accuracy has been attained in ascribing goods to their countries of origin, it is probable that part of the shipments from Belgium really emanated from Germany. The two countries conjointly showed a share of 19 per cent as compared with 23·8 per cent in 1907-08 and their total declined by R19·9 lakhs (£132,700) to R55·66 lakhs (£371,000). Austria-Hungary, on the other hand, increased her share by 15·4 per cent or R2·5 lakhs (£16,700) to R18·88 lakhs (£125,800) and now does 6·4 per cent of the total.

**Metals** represent 10·7 per cent of the total value of imported merchandise. In 1907-08 the quantity had risen to 648,046 tons and the value to R13·19 crores (£8,793,000). In the year now under review the quantity advanced to 652,284 tons (*i.e.*, by ·6 per cent), while the total value receded to R13 crores (£8,660,000) or by 1·5 per cent. The loss of 2 per cent in the specific value as here indicated is surprisingly small considering the decline that has taken place in metal prices during the past 12 months, but it is one of the peculiarities of statistics that a decline in prices sometimes tends positively to sustain the average value of a whole group of articles by inducing an extended importation of a relatively costly item. Thus although copper fell in price more than any other metal, its depreciation led to an increase of some 60 per cent in its importation; and the contribution of an additional R66 lakhs (£440,000) in a commodity worth about R1,100 (£73) per ton produces a noticeable effect under a heading where the average value for all other items is about R200 (£13) per ton. It may be recorded here that Cleveland iron which stood at 61*s*. 6*d*. in June 1907 and by February 1908 had declined to 48 *s* is now about 47*s*. Copper which stood at £106 in April 1907 was at the end of the statistical year under reports carcely saleable at £54-15-6.

**Copper** represented about 21 per cent of the total value of imports of metal in 1908-09 against 15·6 per cent in 1907-08, 13·8 per cent in 1906-07, 15·9 per cent in 1905-06, and 22·6 per cent in 1904-05. It is necessary to go back for some years to obtain an index of the importation under normal conditions, for between 1905-06 and 1907-08 the trade was deranged by successive crises occasioned firstly by a phenomenal rise of price and secondly by an equally extraordinary collapse. The first marked rise occurred in the later half of 1904 when the price moved suddenly to £68 5*s*. By the end of 1905 it had reached £80 15*s*. and in the spring of 1907 it touched £111. By the autumn of that year it was down at £55; and from that time on it varied within a range of £10 till, at the close of the Indian statistical year, it stood at £56 18*s*. 9*d*. Some attempt was made by the great American producers to strengthen prices by restriction of output; but the heavy accumulations prevented success, and the policy was abandoned. The statistics of production indicate that many mines not perfectly situated or equipped find present rates unprofitable and are closed; but the total production of 1908 is the largest on record, being estimated at 748,625 tons or 34,760 tons (4·8 per cent) more than in 1907. It is considered that, in the presence of stocks estimated at 130,000 tons and in view of the fact that the best mines can produce at a cost of from £30 to £40, prices are unlikely to go above £60 for some time. It may be considered therefore that approximately normal conditions have been reached, and it is interesting to note how the Indian demand has responded to such conditions. There has been an increase of 57·4 per cent in the quantity of copper imported and one of 31·9 per cent in the value, the difference between these rates indicating a fall of 16·3 per cent in the average value per unit. **Wrought copper** represents 89·6 per cent of the total quantity of copper imported, and accounted for the entire growth in the trade. It increased by 72·4 per cent in quantity and by 44·7 per cent in value, the fall in specific value here agreeing nearly with that for all copper. The actual figures are 444,984 cwts with a value of R246·23 lakhs (£1,641,500) as compared with 258,064 cwts and R170·06 lakhs (£1,133,700) in 1907-08. **Unwrought copper** declined by 11·1 per cent in quantity and by 29·2 per cent in value, the average value having fallen from

R63·52 (£4 4*s.* 8*d.*) to R50·55 (£3 7*s.* 5*d.*)per cwt. Copper ore exists in several parts of India but the production in 1908 amounted to only 11 tons.

**Brass,** like copper, is used for household utensils in India, to a less but considerable extent. The high prices of copper led to an increased resort to brass in the years 1906-07 and 1907-08; and the imports grew from 10,783 cwts to 21,736 cwts. In 1908-09 the progress was continued, though not at the same rate as was recorded in the case of copper. Imports grew to 24,584 cwts with a value of R13·38 lakhs (£89,200), which marks an advance of 13·1 per cent in quantity and 3·2 per cent in value. From these rates it appears that the specific value of the imports declined by 8·9 per cent.

**Iron and steel**—The year under review has been dull and unprofitable for makers of iron and steel. The fall in prices, though general, has been more marked in manufactures than in materials and labour, and more marked in steel than in iron. As an illustration of the depression of the trade, ship-building may be instanced. The average annual addition to the tonnage of vessels (excluding warships) in the United Kingdom in the ten years 1898 to 1907 was 1,466,397 tons gross, and in the last three years of that period the average had grown to 1,686,467 tons gross. But in 1908 the tonnage dropped to 929,669, which is the lowest figure since 1893; and the contraction of 756,798 tons is almost equivalent to 45 per cent.

Under conditions such as these, efforts were made to keep production within bounds, the example being set—more particularly as regards steel—by America, which is reported to have found this policy less costly than that of dumping surplus products on a market barely able to absorb its own output. The world's production of pig iron in 1908 has been estimated at 54 million ton as against 60 million tons in 1907. The extent of contraction in the three principal countries may be seen from the following statement, (in tons)—

| | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 |
|---|---|---|---|
| United States . . . . | 25,307,200 | 25,781,400 | 15,936,000 |
| Germany . . . . . | 12,473,000 | 13,045,800 | 11,813,500 |
| United Kingdom . . . | 10,100,000 | 9,923,800 | 9,300,000 |
| TOTAL . | 47,880,200 | 48,751,000 | 37,049,500 |

But it is worthy of note that one leading firm has estimated that pig iron stocks, which were reduced to 89,203 tons in 1907 and in July 1908 to 47,949 tons, have in the latter part of that year increased to about 130,000 tons.

The price of **Cleveland warrants** in the United Kingdom averaged 50*s.* 5*d.* in 1908 against 55*s.* 7*d.* in 1907. In April 1908 the price was at 51*s.* 9*d.* and after a rise to 52*s.* in September, it subsided gradually to 47*s.* 3*d.* in March 1909.

The **price** of **Iron bars (Swedish rolled)** in Calcutta averaged R8-6-0 (11*s.* 2*d.*) per cwt against R8-6-6 (11*s.* 2½*d.*) in 1907, the rates having varied much less than in the previous year. They opened at R9 (12*s.*) and dropped at once to R8-4-0 (11*s.*); and, except for a rally to R8-12-0 (11*s.* 8*d.*) in August they remained almost constant at that figure till the close of the statistical year.

The following statement shows the total quantities and values of the **imports** of iron and steel distinctly and conjointly in each of the last five years, (000's omitted)—

| | Iron | | | Steel | | | Total | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | tons | R | £ | tons | R | £ | tons | R | £ |
| 1904-05 | 256 | 3,78,51 | = 2,524 | 212 | 2,34,03 | = 1,56 | 468 | 6,12,54 | = 4,084 |
| 1905-06 | 236 | 3,40,77 | 2,272 | 285 | 3,23,62 | 2,15 | 521 | 6,64,39 | 4,429 |
| 1906-07 | 261 | 4,31,83 | 2,879 | 262 | 3,24,99 | 2,167 | 523 | 7,56,82 | 5,046 |
| 1907-08 | 276 | 4,96,69 | 3,311 | 341 | 4,78,47 | 3,190 | 617 | 9,75,16 | 6,501 |
| 1908-09 | 262 | 4,75,94 | 3,173 | 349 | 4,28,45 | 2,856 | 6 | 9,04,39 | 6,029 |

The distinction between iron and steel in certain lines of goods becomes increasingly difficult and has the disadvantage of obscuring the statistics regarding the trade as a whole in particular articles made alternatively of either substance. But the particulars as stated above show iron to have exceeded steel by R47·49 lakhs (£316,600), though its quantity was smaller by 87,000 tons. Its imports declined by 13,911 tons in quantity (5·1 per cent) and by R20·75 lakhs (£138,300) in value (4·2 per cent), while steel rose in quantity by 7,975 tons (2·3 per cent) but fell in value by R50 lakhs (£333,300) equal to 10·4 per cent. The share of iron in the total values of the last three years has been 57 per cent, 51 per cent, and 53 per cent.

In a class of goods so composite and comprehensive, it is not permissible to postulate constancy in the quantitative relations of one description to another or uniformity in the price movements of the various descriptions. For this reason there would be little real use in bringing out the variations in the average value per cwt of total arrivals. There is, however, some interest in noting that, while the average value per cwt of iron rose from R9-0-2 (12*s.* 0$\frac{1}{6}$*d.*) to R9-1-6 (12*s.* 1$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*), that of steel receded from R7-0-2 (9*s.* 4$\frac{1}{6}$*d.*) to R6-2-1 (8*s.* 2$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*)

From the statement below it will be seen that the share of the United Kingdom in the total quantity of the trade rose from 56·3 per cent to 56·5 per cent. She reduced her shipments from 347,334 to 345,381 tons. In iron the figures receded from 209,574 to 194,824 tons but in steel there was an expansion from 137,760 to 150,557 tons. Germany and Belgium on the other hand supplied 242,063 tons in all against 227,290 tons in 1907-08, and while their iron shipments fell away from 55,738 to 51,863 tons, those in steel developed from 171,552 to 190,200 tons. It may be explained that Germany and Belgium are bracketed because of the facts that considerable quantities of Germany's products are shipped from Belgium and that it is not yet possible to assign exactly to each source such proportion of the trade as is derived from it. (*Quantity in tons.*)

| | Total | | | United Kingdom | | | Germany and Belgium | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total |
| Bars | 39,058 | 115,003 | 154,061 | 7,577 | 12,786 | 20,363 | 27,713 | 101,532 | 129,245 |
| Sheets and plates | 3,450 | 89,215 | 92,665 | 1,065 | 46,960 | 48,025 | 2,383 | 42,094 | 44,477 |
| „ „ galvanised | 93,915 | ... | 93,915 | 90,615 | ... | 90,615 | 2,044 | ... | 2,044 |
| „ „ tinned | 16,956 | ... | 16,956 | 16,936 | ... | 16,936 | 5 | ... | 5 |
| Hoop | 3,420 | 17,175 | 20,595 | 2,213 | 12,213 | 14,426 | 1,206 | 3 207 | 4,413 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod | 2,990 | ... | 2,990 | 823 | ... | 823 | 1,821 | ... | 1,821 |
| Angle, channel | ... | 28,770 | 28,770 | ... | 15,205 | 15,205 | ... | 13,557 | 13,557 |
| Beams, etc. | 8,802 | 63,625 | 72,427 | 8,409 | 45,019 | 53,428 | 347 | 18,606 | 18,953 |
| Pipes and tubes | 29,807 | ... | 29,807 | 25,395 | ... | 25,395 | 423 | ... | 423 |
| Nails, etc. | 16,267 | ... | 16,267 | 3,320 | ... | 3,320 | 9,803 | ... | 9,803 |
| Other sorts | 46,970 | 35,547 | 82,517 | 38,471 | 18,374 | 56,845 | 6,118 | 11,204 | 17,322 |
| Total for 1908-09 | 261,635 | 349,335 | 610,970 | 194,824 | 150,557 | 345,381 | 51,863 | 190,200 | 242,063 |
| Total for 1907-08 | 275,545 | 341,359 | 616,904 | 209,574 | 137,760 | 347,334 | 55,738 | 171,552 | 227,290 |

**Bars**, of which three-fourths are steel, constitute the largest item; and of this Germany and Belgium between them do about 84 per cent. In this article there was an increase of 16,031 tons or 11·6 per cent. **Galvanised sheets** is the item of next importance; and, as it relates to a branch of manufacture which was singularly immune from distress and from price fluctuations in 1908, it is interesting to find that it shows a small advance of 102 tons. Most of this trade is done by the United Kingdom and emanates from a small and well organized group of

manufacturers ; but Germany and Belgium, which two years ago contributed only 692 tons, have raised their total to 1,700 tons in 1907-08 and to 2,000 tons in 1908-09. **Sheets and plates** are mainly of steel and the development here is substantial, being one of 11,423 tons. But this is more than accounted for by the addition of 13,886 tons in the shipments from Germany and Belgium, the difference of 2,400 tons having come out of Britain's share. The value per cwt of sheets and plates imported from Germany and Belgium fell from R6-6-0 (8*s.* 6*d.*) in 1907-08 to R5-13-9 (7*s.* 9¾*d.*) and the average value of British sheets fell from R8-15-9 (11*s.* 11¾*d.*) to R8-0-3 (10*s* 8¼*d.*). In **tinned plates** the United Kingdom continues to have its own way ; but the total shows a small shrinkage. Comparison of the rates of decline in quantity and in value points to a drop of 10·2 per cent in specific value. This is accounted for by the low cost of production attending the fall in prices of tin, coal, and pig-iron, and the offer of cheap steel bars from the Continent and America. **Beams, etc.**, show an advance of 11,239 tons ; and here the United Kingdom records an advance of 17,386 tons, contrasted with a decline of 6,168 tons in the purchases from Germany and Belgium. **Pipes and tubes** form another branch of trade in which Britain is supreme ; and although other countries added some 1,260 tons to their small trade, British shipments also showed an advance of about 80 tons. The total sum was R65·82 lakhs (£439,000), of which the United Kingdom did R54·87 lakhs (£365,800), Belgium R80,900 (£5,390), and the United States R10·05 lakhs (£67,000). In **angle, channel**, etc., the trade is more evenly divided between England and her chief competitors ; and on the whole it must be admitted that the latter have pulled up on her in the last year. This holds the more true of **Hoop** inasmuch as the United Kingdom has lost about 2,350 tons, while the others have gained. **Nails** come mainly from Germany and Belgium ; and the trade continues to grow without Britain's being able to secure even a proportional expansion in her shipments.

The year under review brought with it further developments of combination by the United States Steel Corporation and more recently there were strong rumours of an international combination among makers of steel rails for the purpose of maintaining prices and controlling markets.

**Lead,** like other metals used by the electrician, has shown extraordinary price developments in recent years ; and its importation into India has reflected the conditions thus created. The price in London stood at £19-12-6 in the beginning of 1907-08 and fell to £13-15-0 in March 1908. The reduced demand, together with increased arrivals, forced the price down to £12-7-6 in June ; and although it recovered temporarily to £14-7-6 in November, it has since that month dropped to £13-15-0, at which quotation the statistical year closed. It is not surprising that the Indian demand should have responded to these conditions. The arrivals grew in 1907-08 to 123,077 cwts with a value of R20·5 lakhs (£137,000) ; and in the year now under review they have increased to 138,287 cwts with a value of R19·36 lakhs (£129,100). We have thus to compare a quantitative increase of 12·4 per cent with a decrease of 5·5 per cent in total value, which contrast marks a fall of 16 per cent in specific value—*i. e.*, from R16-10-6 (£1 2*s.* 2½*d.*) to R14 (18*s.* 8*d.*) per cwt. The United Kingdom supplied lead for **tea chests** to the value of R7·57 lakhs (£50,500) as compared with R9·51 lakhs (£63,400) in 1907-08 ; while imports of this class from foreign countries also showed a small decline at R84,400 (£5,630). There is thus a net decline of R1·94 lakhs (£13,000) or 18·8 per cent in value and of 6,820 cwts or

11 per cent in quantity. The average value of the British sheet fell from R16-13-4 (£1 2*s*. 5⅓*d*.) to R16-4-0 (£1 1*s*. 8*d*) per cwt, and that of the foreign articles from R15-12-10 (£1 1*s*. 1*d*.) to R9-15-7 (13*s*. 3½*d*).

The year was notable for the institution of a convention between leading producers of lead, with the effect that the output of the principal Australian, Spanish, German, and American concerns will in future be handled by two companies situated respectively in London and in Frankfort. The permanance of the combination is in doubt owing to dissatisfaction felt by the German participants and to delay in bringing the outside interest into line.

**Tin** is associated with copper in the constitution of materials used in industries that were exceptionally active until the end of 1907; and, under the spur of that activity, it shared with copper in one of the most remarkable price movements on record. But, unlike copper, it has to some extent maintained the high level it had reached; and this in spite of increased supplies and a contracted demand, the latter most noticeable in America. There was a substantial addition to the world's visible stock of tin in 1908; and, while the current prices show a marked drop from the £215 touched in 1906 and the £200 touched in 1907, prices have ranged from £147 in March 1908 to £124 in July, £139 in August, £130 in September, £141-15-0 and even £143-7-6 in November, after which it has been weaker at £132 in December, £124-15-0 in February and £130 in March. About half of the world's production of tin is derived from the Malay Archipelago; and it is from this source that India draws most of her supply. Her demand in 1908-09 expanded from 32,171 cwts with a value of R43·48 lakhs (£290,000) to 37,142 cwts with a diminished value of R42·46 lakhs (£283,000). The quantity thus increased by 15·4 per cent, while the total value decreased by 2·3 per cent from which discrepancy a decline of 15·4 per cent in the specific value may be deduced. **Unwrought tin** from the Straits was also imported to the extent of 32,842 cwts with a value of R37·74 lakhs (£251,600), which shows a substantial quantitative advance on the 28,819 cwts of 1907-08, but, again, a shrinkage of value as compared with the R38·72 lakhs (£258,100) of the previous year.

**Machinery** represents 22·1 per cent of the total value of imported metals and manufactures thereof and 5·45 per cent of the imports of all merchandise. India has been adding rapidly to its mechanical equipment in recent years; and it is satisfactory to find that the period of depression has not so far led to the arrest of its enterprise in this respect, although progress is being retarded. Its expenditure on machinery in the last five years has been as follows:— 1904-05, R402·7 lakhs (£2,685,000); 1905-06, R492·5 lakhs (£3,283,000); 1906-07, R579 lakhs (£3,860,000); 1907-08, R658·53 lakhs (£4,390,200); 1908-09, R661·59 lakhs (£4,410,600). The increase in the year under review was therefore one of R3·06 lakhs (£20,400) or 0·5 per cent. **Textile** machinery continues to hold the first place, and represents 43·5 per cent of the whole. It advanced from R263·29 lakhs (£1,755,000) to R287·6 lakhs (£1,917,000), the increase being R24·31 lakhs (£162,000) or 9·2 per cent. Of this, Bengal took the largest share, namely, R139·26 lakhs (£928,400) in place of R108·05 lakhs (£720,300) in 1907-08, the gain here being R31·21 lakhs (£208,100) or 28·9 per cent. This machinery is mainly devoted to the production of jute goods. The cotton industry in Calcutta finds it hard to compete with centres that possess a larger choice of staples and where the standard of and the demand for labour are not determined by the requirements of jute factories.

Bombay, though enjoying these advantages, now takes second place, with textile machinery to the value of R135·33 lakhs (£902,200) against R142·74 lakhs (£951,600) in 1907-08. The contraction of R7·41 lakhs (£49,400) or 5·2 per cent marks the attainment of a point at which the cotton industry is finding difficulty in marketing all its products. Madras, which is also concerned mainly with the cotton industry, likewise shows a diminished total of R10·88 lakhs (£72,500) against R11·71 lakhs (£78,100) in the previous year. Sind, which in 1907-08 figured at only R79,000 (£5,300) in the accounts, has increased her imports of textile machinery to R2,12,600 (£14,170), mainly as a result of the arrivals of plant for the new woollen mill of His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan. Bengal's share of the total of all descriptions of machinery is 44 per cent, and represents a sum of R291·38 lakhs (£1,942,500) as compared with R265·95 lakhs (£1,773,000) in 1907-08, the advance being R25·43 lakhs (£169,500) or 9·6 per cent. Bombay, on the other hand, took less by R39·5 lakhs (£263,300) or 13·4 per cent, her total being R254·69 lakhs (£1,697,900) in place of R294·19 lakhs (£1,961,200) in 1907-08. This indicates that, outside of textile machinery, Bombay reduced her demand by some R32·09 lakhs (£223,900). But the provinces outside Bengal and Bombay increased their business from R98·38 lakhs (£655,900) to R115·53 lakhs (£770,200); and the supplementary R17·14 lakhs (£114,300) — equal to 17·4 per cent on their previous year's record, — plus Bengal's increase of R25·43 lakhs (£169,500) recouped Bombay's decrease, and established the small advance recorded above. The value of steam engines imported into all India declined from R137·73 lakhs (£918,200) to R108·59 lakhs (£723,900). Electrical machinery and mining machinery, at R35·47 lakhs (£236,500) and R12·36 lakhs (£82,400), both showed substantial progress; and it should be borne in mind that a good deal of the electrical plant really belongs to the textile industry. "Other sorts" at R217·57 lakhs (£1,450,500) showed a decline from R220·04 lakhs (£1,467,000).

**Railway material** forms 24·76 per cent of the total value of metals and manufactures imported in 1908-09. The expansion of this branch of imports continues. In the last five years the figures, **in lakhs of rupees and in thousands of pounds sterling**, have been as follows:

| | R | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 . | 561·54 | =3,744 |
| 1905-06 . | 673·89 | 4,493 |
| 1906-07 . | 849·29 | 5,662 |
| 1907-08 . | 988·74 | 6,592 |
| 1908-09 . | 1,193·94 | 7,960 |

The increase of R205·2 lakhs (£1,368,000) marks an advance of 20·8 per cent. These figures include R651·42 lakhs (£4,343,000) for rolling-stock and comprise imports for private lines and for State railways. The former class shows a total value of R742 lakhs (£4,947,000) against R720·08 lakhs (£4,800,500) in 1907-08, the addition of nearly R22 lakhs (£147,000) being equal to 3 per cent. Government railways, on the other hand, imported materials to the value of R451·94 lakhs (£3,013,000) against R268·66 (£1,791,000) in the previous year. Here the increase of R183·28 lakhs (£1,222,000) marks an advance of 68·2 per cent, but the total has been exceeded in earlier years. During the twelve months 774·26 miles of Railway were opened, while 2,740·58 miles were under construction or sanctioned in April 1909. At that date the total length of line opened in India was 30,983·04 miles.

In 1908-09 the return on the Capital expenditure on railways amounted to 3·7 per cent as compared with 4·7 per cent in 1907-08 and 5·4 per cent in 1906-07. For the first time since 1898-99 the railway system worked at a net loss to the State in the year under review, owing to exceptional and temporary causes, as for instance the heavy outlay on repairs and renewals of rails and girders that have proved too light for the loads they have to carry. The pace at which these improvements are being carried out was for the time relaxed and the railway programme for 1909-10 cut down to £10 millions, namely, £8,666,900 for open lines including rolling-stock, £1,099,800 for lines under construction, and £233,300 for new lines.

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES, NARCOTICS, DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS

**Chemicals**—The value of the imports of chemicals in 1908-09 was R74·7 lakhs (£498,000) as compared with R79·3 lakhs (£528,600) in the previous year. **Bleaching materials** showed an advance from R3·56 lakhs (£23,700) to R4·56 lakhs (£30,400). **Calcium carbide** increased from R1·19 lakhs (£7,900) to R1·64 lakhs (£10,900). **Cyanide of Potassium** also advanced from R2·77 lakhs (£48,500) to R3·16 lakhs (£21,100), while the imports of **Disinfectants** fell away from R3·97 lakhs (£26,500) to R3·03 lakhs (£20,200) and **Caustic soda** from R8·94 lakhs (£59,600) to R7·3 lakhs (£49,000). **Bicarbonate of soda** also showed a decline at R3·99 lakhs (£26,600) in place of R5·05 lakhs (£34,300), while **Soda, other sorts,** increased from R6·53 lakhs (£43,500) to R8·01 lakhs (£53,400). The comprehensive heading **Chemicals, other sorts,** this year represents 35·4 per cent of the total in place of 37·5 per cent in 1907-08. Its total value receded from R29·77 lakhs (£198,500) to R26·42 lakhs (£176,100).

**Drugs and medicines**—The year under review was one of great dulness in the chemical trade and of declining prices, except as regards those articles whose rates are fixed by combination. The depression had begun to be felt towards the end of 1907, but did not become marked till the beginning of the Indian statistical year. The total value of drugs and medicines imported was R72·82 lakhs (£485,500) as compared with R90·92 lakhs (£606,100) in 1907-08, the decline being R18·4 lakhs (£123,000) or nearly 20 per cent. The vicissitude of **camphor** in respect of price have been very marked in recent years. Indian statistics showed the specific value of the article to have risen by 16 per cent in 1904-05, by 37 per cent in 1905-06, and by 42 per cent in 1906-07. In the next year the decline set in under the shadow of the synthetic product. In 1907-08 the specific value fell by 16 per cent and in the year under review it has dropped by no less than 53·3 per cent. This is shown by the fact that, while the quantity declined by only 8·3 per cent to 1,093,368 lbs, the total value fell by 57·1 per cent to R11·61 lakhs (£77,400) in place of R27·05 lakhs (£180,300). With Formosan supplies being slowly exhausted and companies springing up on the continent of Europe to produce the synthetic substitute, the satter has for the moment made good its position. The financial results produced by these companies do not warrant any great certainty that they can survive at the price levels now ruling. If they do not survive the control of prices will fall virtually into the hands of the Japanese agency in Europe as reconstituted in 1908, but with the restraining influence of experience and of uncertainty as to

China's resources. If they do survive, there is foreshadowed a long struggle between the natural and artificial products with low prices advantageous to all outsiders, except those planters in Ceylon and elsewhere who have planted camphor trees in recent years. The exports of camphor from Formosa in 1908 were only 2,764,733 lbs, in place of 4,121,566 lbs in the previous year, the quantity having therefore been restricted by about 33 per cent. In spite of this the price of camphor, Japanese 1 oz tablets, in London, which stood at 4*s*. 8*d*. per lb in March 1907, declined to 2*s*. 1*d*. by the end of March 1908, and had fallen to 1*s*. 7*d*. a year later. **Quinine** is virtually controlled by Java now, although there are still manufacturers who stand out of the ring. The improved production has overtaken consumption, and prices receded by about 9 per cent in 1908. German brands of sulphate were quoted 7$\frac{3}{4}$*d*. to 8*d*. per oz. in April 1908 and this rate held till the middle of September when $\frac{1}{4}$*d*. was dropped; but since February the current rate has been 7*d*. to 7$\frac{1}{4}$*d*. which marks the lowest level ever attained, and there is no reason to look for an early or marked recovery. These facts are gone into at greater length than is warranted by the statistical value of the drugs, because they have peculiar interest for India in several aspects. The imports of quinine subsided to 80,020 lbs and R6·19 lakhs (£41,300) in place of 82,079 lbs and R7·21 lakhs (£48,100) in 1907-08. The decline was therefore 2·5 per cent in quantity and 14 per cent in total value, indicating a loss of 12 per cent in the specific value. **Proprietary and patent medicines** have decreased from R18·83 lakhs (£125,500) to R17·81 lakhs (£119,000), and **other sorts** have increased from R25·85 lakhs (£172,300) to R26·23 lakhs (£175,000).

**Tobacco**—The imports of tobacco in 1908-09 had a value of R79·42 lakhs (£529,500) as compared with R84·36 lakhs (£562,400) in the previous year. Of this, 72·8 per cent is represented by cigarettes; and the decrease recorded in their importation is advantageous to the internal industry. In cigarettes, the year's figures show a decline from 3,634,192 lbs to 2,995,692 lbs, and from R61·2 lakhs (£408,000) to R57·79 lakhs (£385,300). The loss is thus 17·6 per cent in quantity and 5·6 per cent in value; and this would appear to indicate that the shrinkage is more marked in the inferior than in the better qualities. Cigarettes costing more than R8 (10*s* 8*d*) per 1,000 weigh about 3 lbs to the thousand; while those of lower price average about 2$\frac{1}{2}$ lbs per thousand. In normal times the low quality cigarettes appear to represent 96·7 per cent of the whole. The contraction of imports probably took effect principally in these lower qualities, seeing that it is only in respect of them that a competitive indigenous industry exists and seeing that the foregoing analysis of the figures points to such a conclusion. Assuming that it is well founded, and accepting the above weights per thousand as correct, the number of cigarettes imported must have been some 1,192 millions as against 1,400 millions in 1907–08. This represents some 6 cigarettes per annum per head of the population of British India. Of the total of R57·79 lakhs (£385,300), R44·7 lakhs (£298,000) came from the United Kingdom; R8·37 lakhs (£55,800) from the United States, and R31,000 (£2,100) from Further East. The R3·83 lakhs (£25,500) from Egypt represents a different class of article and varies little from year to year. The average value per lb for each of the sources enumerated was British, R2-0-10 (2*s* 8$\frac{3}{4}$*d*), American R 1-2-10 (1*s* 6$\frac{3}{4}$*d*), Egyptain R 6-3-7 (8*s* 3$\frac{1}{2}$*d*), Eastern R 1-0-4 (1*s* 4$\frac{1}{3}$*d*).

**Dyes**—The imports of **aniline** and **alizarine dyes** receded somewhat from the level of 1907-08. The total was 11,932,409 lbs with a value of R80·48 lakhs (£536,500) as compared with 12,957,817 lbs and R84·65 lakhs (£564,300)

in the earlier year. This marks a decline of 7·9 per cent in quantity and 4·9 per cent in value, together with a rise of about 3·2 per cent in the average value per unit, which is now 10 annas 10 pies ($10\frac{5}{6}d$) as against 10 annas 5 pies ($10\frac{5}{12}d$). This does not necessarily mean that the price of these dyes rose generally, for there are many grades whose prices diverge widely and which are imported in varying quantities. These products come chiefly from Germany: and the work of amalgamating the interests in that country made further progress in the year under review. Bombay continues to be the principal port of entry, about 72 per cent of the imports having been received there. Imports of **aniline** accounted for about one-third of the contraction referred to above. The quantity decreased from 6,651,355 lbs with a value of ₹51·46 lakhs (£343,100) to 6,321,078 lbs with a value of ₹ 50·19 lakhs (£334,600). There was therefore a decline of 4·9 per cent in quantity and 2·1 per cent in value, with a rise of average value by 2·6 per cent, namely, from 12 annas 4 pies (*1s.* $0\frac{1}{3}d$.) to 12 annas 8 pies (*1s.* $0\frac{2}{3}d$.)per lb. **Alizarine** was quantitatively very much on a par with aniline in 1907-08, but the trade in it accounted for two-thirds of the total decline in 1908-09. Its contraction was at the rate of 11 per cent in quantity and 8·7 per cent in value which brought the total figures to 5,611,331 lbs with a value of ₹30·29 lakhs (£201,900) in place of 6,306,462 lbs with a value of ₹33·19 lakhs (£221,300). The average value per lb rose from 8 annas 4 pies ($8\frac{1}{3}d$) to 8 annas 7 pies ($8\frac{7}{12}d$).

## OILS

The import trade in **oils** represents about 3·4 per cent of the total value of merchandise imported into India.

The imports of **mineral oils** in 1908-09 had a total value of ₹390·9 lakhs (£2,606,000) as against ₹319·33 lakhs (£2,129,000) in 1907-08. Of this 85 per cent was kerosene, which by itself amounted to 83·58 million gallons with a value of ₹333·25 lakhs (£2,222,000), as compared with 65·43 million gallons with a value of ₹252·14 lakhs (£1,681,000) in 1907-08.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of kerosene imported in each of the last two years. The imports into India proper from Burma are added at the foot. **The unit in every case is 1,000.**

| | Quantity | | Value | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
| | Gals. | Gals. | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| United States | 24,278 | 33,915 | 1,19,92= | 80 | 1,67,58= | 1,117 |
| Roumania | 15,700 | 16,284 | 53·73 | 358 | 53·99 | 360 |
| Straits Settlements | 6,088 | 10,855 | 15,60 | 104 | 32,57 | 217 |
| Sumatra | 2,040 | 9,096 | 7 06 | 47 | 3,353 | 224 |
| Borneo | 7,944 | 6,427 | 21,10 | 141 | 18,65 | 124 |
| Russia | 9,377 | 7,004 | 34,68 | 231 | 26,97 | 180 |
| Other foreign countries | 4 | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... |
| Total foreign countries | 65,431 | 83,581 | 2,52,14 | 1,681 | 3,33,25 | 2,222 |
| Coastwise from Burma | 64,556 | 62,278 | 2,30,56 | 1,537 | 2,25,12 | 1,501 |

From these figures it will appear that, excluding Burma's unascertainable internal consumption of indigenous oil, India has, on the average of the last two years, absorbed kerosene at the rate of 137·9 millions of gallons per annum; and there is no reason to believe that saturation point is in sight. The increase in the total imports from foreign countries in 1908-09 was 18·15 million gallons

or 27·7 per cent, while the increase in visible consumption was 85·9 million gallons or 12·2 per cent.

In 1907-08, Burma represented 49 per cent of the total visible consumption; but in the year under review her share fell to 42 per cent as a result of a contraction in her shipments concurrently with a large increase in imports. The decline in shipments from Burma to India was one of 3·5 per cent in quantity and 2·3 per cent in value.

The share of the **United States** in the visible consumption in the last two years has been 21 per cent; and her share in the imports of the year under review is 40·6 per cent as compared with 37·1 per cent in 1907-08. In 1908-09 she increased her shipments by 9,637,348 gallons or 39·7 per cent and by a sum of R47·66 lakhs (£318,000)

For the second year in succession, **Roumania** takes second place among the individual foreign purveyors of kerosene. Her contribution to the visible consumption in these two years has been 11 per cent, and her share in the imports in 1908-09 is 19·5 per cent. She strengthened her position by 584,028 gallons or 3·7 per cent and by a sum of R26,100 (£1,740).

It would probably be well to group Borneo, Sumatra, and (as entrepot) the Straits Settlements; and if this be done the group takes second place, contributing 15·3 per cent of the visible consumption in the last two years and 31·5 per cent in the imports of 1908-09. It is impossible to say as yet how much of the shipments by way of the Straits Settlements came from each of the other sources in this group; so no purpose would be served by specific analysis. The increase in receipts from this group of sources was 10,305,510 gallons in quantity (64·1 per cent) and R40·95 lakhs (£273,000) in value.

The share of Russia in the visible consumption is 5·9 per cent and in the last year's imports 8·4 per cent. Her falling-off was one of 2,372,934 gallons or 25·3 per cent and of R7·71 lakhs (£51,400). Her total is lower than in 1905-06, but much higher than in 1906-07 when her trade suffered from the disturbed conditions in the producing region.

**Bulk oil** formed 73 per cent of the total foreign imports, in place of 75·6 per cent in 1907-08, the total quantity received in this form being 61,034,000 gallons. Of this, America supplied 23·1 per cent, Roumania 26·7 per cent, Russia 11·4 per cent, and Sumatra, Borneo, and the Straits together 38·8 per cent.

The remaining 27 per cent of the whole was of course **Case oil**. The quantity was 22,547,000 gallons, and of this America supplied 87·8 per cent, and Sumatra, Borneo, and the Straits the balance of 12·2 per cent.

The following are the average prices of the leading descriptions of kerosene during the last three years:

| | | 1906-07 | | | | | 1907-08 | | | | | 1908-09 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | R | a. | p. | s. | d. | R | a. | p. | s. | d. | R | a. | p. | s. | d. |
| *American*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chester | per case | 4 | 7 | 6=5 | 11½ | | 4 | 8 | 8=6 | 0⅔ | | 4 | 10 | 2=6 | 2⅙ | |
| *Russian*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ram | „ | 3 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 3⅝ | 4 | 4 | 10 | 5 | 8⅝ | 4 | 3 | 11 | 5 | 7 11/12 |
| *Burma*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Victoria | per 2 tins | 3 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 3½ | 3 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 7⅝ | 3 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 8 |
| Gold Mohur | „ | 3 | 10 | 1 | 4 | 10 1/12 | 3 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 9 | 5 | 1¾ |
| *Borneo*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cobra | „ | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5⅛ | 3 | 8 | 11 | 4 | 8 11/12 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 4 | 10 5/12 |
| *Sumatra*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Silver-light | per case | 4 | 14 | 0 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 12 | 0 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 8 1/12 |

For some years an arrangement has existed between the various companies exploiting the Indian market and prices have been fairly maintained. The close

of the year under review was marked by a brief interruption of these conditions and by a heavy break in prices followed by a concerted return to the old level. It would probably be difficult to say whether the incident was due solely to a difference of opinion as to the effect of the subsisting arrangement between the parties, or whether some nervousness had been engendered by the operations of a new interest which was securing a position in the market. The year was notable for the flotation of the following new companies:—Indo-Burma Petroleum Oil Co., United Twinyo Oil Co., Twinzas Oil Co., and Nath Sing Oil Co., with a nominal capital of R2·30 crores (£1·53 millions).

The Egyptian Oil Trust with a capital of £100,000 also came into working during 1908; and the formation of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company with a capital of £2,000,000 was realised a few days after the close of the statistical year.

Imports of **fuel oil,** on the other hand, made a striking advance from 1,250,115 gallons to 2,914,685 gallons with a value of R2·92 lakhs (£19,500). Of this 87·3 per cent came from Borneo and 10·9 per cent from the Straits as entrepôt. Bombay, which in 1907-08 had made its "record" demand of 690,179 gallons, increased this by about 165 per cent in 1908-09 and took 1,829,424 gallons, Madras also took more than twice as much as in 1907-08, and her total rose to 745,228 gallons as compared with 350,218; while Bengal showed more modest progress with 340,034 gallons against 209,718 gallons in the previous year. Karachi has ceased to import.

In imports of **other mineral oils,** mainly for lubricating, there was a reaction from the high level of 12,893,500 gallons recorded in 1907-08. The total quantity landed was 10,348,330 gallons, which shows a contraction of 20 per cent; and Burma's exports to India proper declined by 32 per cent to 2,756,100 gallons.

## RAW MATERIALS

**Coal** represents 17·2 per cent of the value of raw materials imported into India. Until three years ago, it appeared that country coal was steadily displacing imported coal in India. Since then, it would appear that a reaction has set in, and the imports recorded in 1908-09 are the highest since 1896-97. Under the pressure of general industrial inactivity prices of coal in England declined by 3*s.* to 4*s.* in 1908; but the foreign demand was good and the total exports (if we include coal shipped for use of steamers engaged in foreign trade) were 84,654,823 tons, which is only 27,263 tons less than in 1907. An active coal trade is of the first importance to maritime commerce in general, because the business of transporting it carries shipping into distant ports and mostly into those ports where industry is most progressive and return freight is likely to be found. The country that contains sources of good export coal possesses in effect a title to so much of the world's carrying trade; and acquisition by a foreign people of any part of those sources is an adroit stroke of business. It will be interesting moreover to see how far the development of Australia's advantages in this respect (which are clearly reflected in India's import figures) may be found consistent with her policy as regards white crews. India's imports grew from 308,348 tons with a value of R59·35 lakhs (£395,700) to 455,806 tons with a value of R82·25 lakhs (£548,300). The increase in quantity is therefore 47·8 per cent and in value 38·6 per cent, the average value having apparently

declined by only 6·2 per cent. The increase in quantity is 147,458 tons, and this approximates to the considerable figure of 145,796 tons imported from Australia in place of 50,290 tons in 1907-08. Australia thus does 32 per cent of the trade; but the United Kingdom does 48 per cent, and retains the first place with 220,139 tons having a value of R44·61 lakhs (£297,400) as compared with 215,100 tons in 1907-08, valued at R44·42 lakhs (£296,100). The Natal trade developed very rapidly from 35,349 tons and R5·71 lakhs (£38,100) to 71,367 tons and R12·11 lakhs (£80,700), but there have been complaints about quality. Japan, which formerly sent considerable quantities to India, supplied only 5,950 tons in the year under review. The remaining 12,000 tons come from Portuguese East Africa and Ceylon. Imports of British coal by Government amounted to 18,122 tons valued at R4·18 lakhs (£27,900). Particulars regarding production of Indian coal are given in the article relating to exports of coal.

The imports of **Cotton**, which had advanced by 35·6 per cent to 157,529 cwts in 1907-08 with a value of R70·95 lakhs (£473,000), receded in 1908-09 to 125,487 cwts with a value of R53·03 lakhs (£354,000). These figures mark a decline of 20·3 per cent in quantity and 25·2 per cent in value, the average value per unit having declined by 6·2 per cent.

The importation was equal to 1·8 per cent of the total mill consumption in 1908. The imported longer staple is wanted mainly for the production of cloth for internal consumption; and its low ratio in the year under review may be accounted for in part by the congestion of the internal piecegoods market and the activity in spinning for China. It may probably be assumed that the 85,924 cwts received from the United Kingdom were of American origin, and this with the 1,850 cwts shipped direct from the United States brings their aggregate to 70 per cent of the total importation. Egypt sent 25,436 cwts in place of 15,447 cwts in the previous year, while Persia supplied 6,572 cwts or little more than in 1907-08.

**Precious stones and pearls, unset**—As recorded in the trade accounts, the figures probably bear no very close relation to the true imports. It is well known that large quantities of pearls are both imported and exported in such a manner as to escape record; but this is not peculiar to India, for it has been recently shown that the mass of the diamonds brought into the United Kingdom escape registration by the Board of Trade. The German Government has taken measures to secure an adequate revenue from the diamonds found in its colony in South West Africa by taking the stones over on the spot, charging itself with the marketing of them at its discretion and paying to the producing companies two thirds of the proceeds less a charge for working expenses. The values under the heading of precious stones fluctuate greatly and are in any case difficult to verify. In the year under review the trade in gems was bad and pearls especially suffered from the collapse that set in late in 1907. In 1907-08 the total recorded value fell from R93·38 lakhs (£622,500) to R69·57 lakhs (£463,800) and in 1908-09 it has fallen to R51·62 lakhs (£344,100) or by a further 25·8 per cent. The net decline is about R18 lakhs (£120,000). The source of the largest single supply is Bahrein which sent gems to the value of R26·4 lakhs (£176,000) in place of R43·42 lakhs (£289,500) in 1907-08. Next comes Arabia with R13·04 lakhs (£86,900) in place of R16·48 lakhs (£109,900). Persia with R7·96 lakhs (£53,100) in place of R5·34 lakhs (£35,600), Austria-Hungary with R84,260 (£5,617) in place of R3,725 (£248), and the United Kingdom with R4,883 (£325) instead of R4,326 (£288)

show the only increases and these are small. Aden's contribution dropped from R3·45 lakhs (£23,000) to R2·35 lakhs (£15,700). Diamonds are found in Central India and rubies in Burma. Of the former the ascertained production fell from R41,772 (£2,787) in 1907 to R14,103 (£940) in 1908. Of rubies the output is larger, having been as follows in the last three years:

| | Carats | R | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1906 . . . | 326,855 | 14,33,000= | 95,500 |
| 1907 . . . | 334,535 | 14,26,000 | 95,100 |
| 1908 . . . | 211,194 | 7,18,812 | 47,900 |

These last figures mark a contraction of nearly 37 per cent in quantity and 49 per cent in value.

**Silk**—The heavy fall in silk prices, which marked 1908, stimulated imports to some extent. They increased from 2,050,839 lbs to 2,168,468 lbs and from R98·15 lakhs (£654,300) to R101·79 lakhs (£679,200). The increase of 117,629 lbs marks a development of 5·7 per cent in quantity; and the addition of R3·74 lakhs (£24,900) to the total value is equal to 3·8 per cent of the previous year's figure. The small decline of 1·8 per cent in the specific value, which is thus indicated, only faintly reflects the decline in silk prices throughout the world. Of the total of R101·9 lakhs (£679,200), Bombay took R72·99 lakhs (£486,600) and Burma R28·74 lakhs (£191,600). Direct imports from China at 1,774,526 lbs were greater than the previous year's figures by 41,203 lbs or 2·4 per cent; while those from the Straits Settlements, in rising from 169,050 to 251,182 lbs, established an advance of 48·6 per cent without very greatly exceeding the figure attained two years ago.

**Wood**—The imports of unmanufactured wood (which includes timber, firewood, and ornamental woods) declined from R82 lakhs (£546,700) to R73·74 lakhs (£491,600). The difference of R8·26 lakhs (£55,100) represents 10 per cent on the previous year's figure. Of this net decrease, R7·9 lakhs (£53,000) is due to the contraction of the trade in timber from R80·25 lakhs (£535,000) to R72·34 lakhs (£482,300) and from 99,557 cub. tons to 92,365 cub. tons. The decline of 7·2 per cent in quantity together with one of 9·8 per cent in value, marks a loss of 2·8 per cent in the specific value. **Teak** now represents 65 per cent of the whole, in place of 75 per cent two years ago and 71 per cent in 1907-08. The decline under this head largely exceeds the increase in the shipments of teak from Burma to India proper. It is one of 20·6 per cent in quantity and 18 per cent in value, bringing the figures for 1908-09 to 49,965 cub. tons and R47·79 lakhs (£318,600), in place of 62,946 cub. tons and R58·4 lakhs (£390,000). Of this diminished quantity, Siam supplied about 90 per cent, and the rest came mostly from Java. On the other hand, **timber other than teak** was imported in larger quantities, and the figures stood at 42,400 cub. tons and R24·55 lakhs (£163,600) in place of 36,611 cub. tons and R21·84 lakhs (£145,600), the increase being 15·8 per cent in quantity and 12·4 per cent in value, while there was apparently a fall of 3 per cent in the specific value. The imports from the United States were larger than in the previous year, but the total of 7,639 cub. tons with a value of R3·25 lakhs (£21,700) is about the normal level.

## MANUFACTURED ARTICLES

**Cotton Goods**—On the average of the last three years, Cotton goods represent 67·4 per cent of the total value of manufactured articles imported. The

year under review was one of difficulty for the European cotton industry. The previous year had been characterised by an extraordinarily wide margin between the prices of the raw material and of the finished products. Contracts made under those conditions redeemed the earlier part of 1908, but in the later half the margin contracted markedly, demand almost ceased, and even the seven weeks strike and lock-out which began in September failed to relieve the glutted markets and to raise prices. For a note upon the condition of the market for raw cotton, during the year, reference may be made to the chapter that deals with exports of raw cotton; and that on exports of cotton manufactures gives facts about the Indian cotton industry. To the stagnation that was experienced during a great part of the year, the rapid increase in production was certainly contributary. It has been estimated that the number of spindles in the world, which in 1907 was about 114 millions had grown in 1908 to something like 129 millions. The growth in nine years has been about 23 per cent and the outturn of raw cotton is believed to have increased by 24 per cent. In the United Kingdom the number of spindles has grown from less than 46 millions in 1905 to upwards of 57 millions in 1909, while looms have multiplied in the same period from 652,200 to 739,400. The output of this additional machinery could not well have been absorbed unless concessions in price had been possible; but its production had made a new demand on the supplies of raw material and forced prices to a level at which such concessions could not be made profitably. There is reason to fear that in some cases they were ultimately made at heavy loss to holders. So far as the mills in England are concerned, the working of the year was not unprofitable; and an analysis of the returns of 100 companies shows an average dividend of 11·2 per cent in 1908 as against 24·6 per cent in 1907.

As regards India, the features of the year were (*a*) the diminution in the purchasing power of the people as a result of bad harvests and of the extremely high prices of food grains, and (*b*) the consequent accumulation of stocks and the collapse in prices.

The offtake of cloth rapidly ceased, dealers were unable to place or to take the goods contracted for, stocks accumulated rapidly and enormously, and prices broke sharply. Even then, the stocks long appeared to be immoveable. These conditions gave the native dealers a temporary advantage over the importers, and that advantage the dealers in Bombay employed to supplement and to extort certain concessions as regards dates of shipment and penalties for late delivery which they had for some years sought unsuccessfully to procure It is uncertain how far such concessions can be made effective unless the shipper and manufacturer on the other side be prepared to conform. The Swadeshi movement continues; but it does not appear to have tempered for the Indian weaving industry the wind of adversity felt by the dealer in European goods. This is shown to some extent by the heavy stocks of Indian cloth carried in the country and by the fact that the shipments of cotton piecegoods by sea from the Bombay Presidency to other provinces contracted by 27 million yards or 11·3 per cent in quantity and by ₹34·91 lakhs (£232,700) or 9 per cent in value.

The **British exports of yarn** in 1908 were 214,876,200 lbs with a value of £12,857,270, as compared with 241,076,700 lbs in 1907 with a value of £15,416,971. The decrease is thus one of 26,200,500 lbs and £2,559,701. British exports of **piecegoods** contracted from 6,297,707,900 yards and £81,049,207 to 5,532,413,200 yards and £70,238,263, the shrinkage being 765,294,700 yards and £10,810,944. The aggregate decrease in the value of

Britain's exports of cotton goods was thus £15,368,628 or 14 per cent the figure for the previous year.

The aggregate **value of the imports** of cotton yarn and of woven and other cotton goods in the last six years has been as follows, **the unit being 1,000 :**

| | Yarn | | Woven and other goods | | Total | | Proportion of total imports of merchandise |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| 1903-04 | 2,14,21 = | 1,428 | 28,86,85 = | 19,246 | 31,01,06 = | 20,674 | 37 per cent |
| 1904-05 | 2,48,76 | 1,658 | 35,55,92 | 23,706 | 38,04,68 | 25,364 | 39 ,, |
| 1905-06 | 3,42,54 | 2,283 | 39,01,77 | 26,012 | 42,44,31 | 28,295 | 41 ,, |
| 1906-07 | 3,22,32 | 2,149 | 37,69,43 | 25,129 | 40,91,75 | 27,278 | 38 ,, |
| 1907-08 | 3,69,32 | 2,462 | 44,34,93 | 29,560 | 48,04,25 | 32,028 | 37 ,, |
| 1908-09 | 3,64,88 | 2,432 | 34,36,58 | 22,911 | 38,01,46 | 25,343 | 31 ,, |

The decrease in 1908-09 was therefore one of ₹10,03 crores (£6,685,000) or 20·9 per cent.

In **yarns,** however, there was an increase of 4,208,300 lbs or 11·3 per cent accompanied by a decrease of ₹4·44 lakhs (£29,600) or 1·2 per cent in total value, the specific value having thus declined by 11·2 per cent. The quantities imported in each of the last six years are shown here in **millions of pounds :**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 | 28·01 | 1906-07 | 37·67 |
| 1904-05 | 30·58 | 1907-08 | 37·32 |
| 1905-06 | 45·78 | 1908-09 | 41·52 |

The United Kingdom supplied 90 per cent of the yarn imported, and her total increased by 10·2 per cent to 37,395,000 lbs as against 33,946,000 lbs in 1907-08. Of this total, undyed yarn now forms 53·9 per cent with a total of 22,400,000 lbs and ₹192·3 lakhs (£1,282,000), while dyed yarn stands at 19,124,000 lbs and ₹172·58 lakhs (£1,150,500). Of the former, 95·3 per cent came from the United Kingdom, while the principal other sources were Austria-Hungary, China, and Germany. The United Kingdom also supplied 83·9 per cent of the dyed yarns, of which goods 4·7 per cent came from Austria, 4·6 per cent from Italy, and 3·8 per cent from Belgium. The arrivals of 40s mule, after a marked drop in 1907-08, recovered to 9,599,637 lbs, but the total value fell off to ₹68·6 lakhs (£457,300).

It is interesting to compare the imports of coarse, medium, and fine yarns with the production of similar descriptions by the Indian mills. In doing so, it should be borne in mind that the local manufacturers have greatly increased their exports of low counts :

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Nos. 1 to 25**—Imported | 2,539 = | ·42 per cent | 2,380 = | ·41 per cent | 4,095 = | ·68 per cent |
| Indian | 603,096 | 99·58 | 579,309 | 99·59 | 597,608 | 99·32 |
| | 605,635 = | 88 | 581,689 = | 86·58 | 601,703 = | 86·46 |
| **Nos. 26 to 40**—Imported | 25,609 | 34·27 | 23,957 | 29·94 | 25,668 | 31·73 |
| Indian | 49,115 | 65·73 | 56,053 | 70·06 | 55,239 | 68·27 |
| | 74,724 = | 10·86 | 80,010 = | 11·91 | 80,907 = | 11·63 |
| **Above 40**—Imported | 6,461 | 81·97 | 7,470 | 73·4 | 8,580 | 64·62 |
| Indian | 1,421 | 18·03 | 2,707 | 26·6 | 4,697 | 35·38 |
| | 7,882 = | 1·14 | 10,177 = | 1·51 | 13,277 = | 1·91 |
| | 688,241 = | 100 | 671,876 = | 100 | 695,887 = | 100 |

**Cotton fabrics** represent 28·3 per cent of the total value of private merchandise imported as compared with 34·1 per cent in 1907-08. The value decreased from ₹4,434·93 lakhs (£29,566,200) to ₹3,436·58 lakhs (£22,910,500). The decrease was one of ₹998·35 lakhs (£6,655,700) or 22·5 per cent. Some descriptions of cotton goods are not stated in yards. It is therefore convenient, in ascertaining the changes of specific value, to confine the calculation to **piecegoods.** The imports of these amounted to 1,992,516,000 yards and ₹3,221·92 lakhs (£21,479,500), against 2,531,733,000 yards and ₹4,204·37 lakhs (£28,029,100) in 1907-08. The contraction amounts to 539·22 millions of yards and ₹982·45 lakhs (£6,549,600), which figures represent declines of 21·3 per cent in quantity, 23·3 per cent in total value, and 2·4 per cent in specific value. These ratios vary in respect of diverse classes. For example, the specific value of grey goods declined by 5·8 per cent and coloured goods by 1·5 per cent, while that of white goods rose by 1·2 per cent.

The following statement shows in **millions of yards** the relative importance of these three classes in the course of the last twenty years. It will be noticed that the grey goods class is considerably lower than any of the earlier figures recorded, that white goods are little better than the average of the five years 1899-1900 to 1903-04, and that coloured goods are also lower than in any year subsequent to that quinquennium.

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured, printed or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average 1889-90 to 1893-94 | 1,223·47 | 368·63 | 374·17 | 62 |
| „ 1894-95 „ 1898-99 | 1,209·77 | 418·59 | 351·49 | 61 |
| „ 1899-1900 „ 1903-04 | 1,204·53 | 469·69 | 430·57 | 57 |
| 1904-05 | 1,210·16 | 584·3 | 493·92 | 53 |
| 1905-06 | 1,348·84 | 572·75 | 541·65 | 55 |
| 1906-07 | 1,298·48 | 494·97 | 524·75 | 56 |
| 1907-08 | 1,253·79 | 733·52 | 544·41 | 49·5 |
| 1908-09 | 1,042·29 | 477·75 | 472·48 | 52·3 |
| Average 1904-05 to 1908-09 | 1,230·71 | 572·66 | 515·44 | 53 |

Grey goods declined by 16·9 per cent, white goods by 34·9 per cent, and coloured goods by 13·2 per cent. Bengal took only 731,835,000 yards of grey goods or 70·2 per cent of the total, as compared with 939,938,000 yards and 74·9 per cent in 1907-08.

The following statement shows in **millions of yards** figures for two years relating to the principal descriptions of imported goods belonging to these three classes under the present system of classification:

| | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|
| *Grey (unbleached)* | | |
| Chádars | 5·14 | 1·54 |
| Dhutis, sáris, and scarves | 501·4 | 462·26 |
| Jaconets, including madapollams, mulls, and cambrics | 139·66 | 100·34 |
| Drills and jeans | 16·84 | 17·69 |
| Sheetings | ·6 | ·18 |
| T. cloth and domestics | 7·86 | 6·81 |
| Longcloth and shirtings | 581·21 | 451·6 |
| Printers | ·31 | ·15 |
| Unspecified | ·77 | 1·72 |
| Total | 1253·79 | 1042·29 |

| | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|
| *White (bleached)* | | |
| Chádars | ·97 | ·69 |
| Dhutis, sáris, and scarves | 79·01 | 51·73 |
| Nainsooks | 247·51 | 135·21 |
| Jaconets, madapoliams, mulls, cambrics, and muslins | 199·95 | 151·65 |
| Twills | 2·6 | 2·92 |
| Drills and jeans | 6·3 | 3·74 |
| Sheetings | ·36 | ·23 |
| T. cloth and domestics | ·01 | ·03 |
| Longcloth and shirtings | 156·11 | 106·27 |
| Checks, spots, and stripes | 9·98 | 8·62 |
| Unspecified | 30·72 | 16·66 |
| Total | 733·52 | 477·75 |
| *Coloured, printed, or dyed* | | |
| Chádars | ·1 | ·1 |
| Dhutis, (including lungis) | 16·6 | 29·19 |
| Saris and scarves | 49·4 | 51·29 |
| Cambrics, including muslins, mulls, and jaconets | 72·83 | 64·97 |
| Drills and jeans | 8·74 | 11·48 |
| Twills | 14·06 | 24·91 |
| Prints and chintz | 200·26 | 127 95 |
| Shirtings | 62·13 | 71·21 |
| Other sorts | 120·29 | 91·38 |
| Total | 544·41 | 472·48 |

It will be seen that among the grey goods the most important groups all show marked contraction, drills and jeans being in fact the only item that expanded. White goods have the same story to tell, but coloured and printed goods in some lines continued to progress.

The production in Indian weaving mills, about which particulars are given in the chapter upon exports of cotton manufactures, consists chiefly of unbleached shirting, dhutis, T. cloths, domestics, and chádars. It increased by 3,313,000 lbs or 1·8 per cent, but this increase resulted in heavy accumulation of stocks. The yardage of grey and bleached piecegoods increased from 680,047,000 yards to 685,972,000 yards, the advance being 5,925,000 yards or ·87 per cent. The weight at the same time fell from 155,084,000 lbs to 154,997,000 lbs, which is 80·6 per cent of the total weight of all woven cotton goods imported.

The extent to which the cotton goods of the three main classes are derived from the United Kingdom is indicated below in **millions of yards:**

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom |
| Unbleached goods | 1,298·48 | 1,289·34 | 1,253·79 | 1,247·38 | 1,042·29 | 1,032·62 |
| Bleached „ | 494·97 | 486·32 | 733·52 | 721·99 | 477·75 | 466·19 |
| Coloured „ | 524·75 | 500·44 | 544·41 | 517·8 | 472·48 | 441·99 |

Britain therefore supplies 99 per cent of the greys, 97·6 per cent of the whites, and 93·5 per cent of the coloured goods. All of these percentages are lower than those recorded in 1907-08.

Besides these, there are some subsidiary classes of goods imported, the principal descriptions of which and the value of the respective trades were—in thousands:

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece | 36,22 | =241·5 | 40,59 | =270·6 | 44,95 | =299·7 |
| Hosiery | 56,13 | 374·2 | 67,27 | 448·5 | 63,45 | 423 |
| Sewing thread | 26,41 | 176·1 | 28,46 | 189·7 | 28,17 | 187·8 |
| Other manufactures | 86,23 | 574·9 | 94,24 | 628·3 | 78,09 | 520·6 |

This branch of the trade therefore showed a net contraction of ₹15·9 lakhs (£106,000) or 6·9 per cent. The United Kingdom supplies 80·9 per cent of the handkerchiefs and shawls and 90·6 per cent of the sewing thread. But of the total it does only 51·7 per cent, seeing that the considerable trade in hosiery is practically monopolised by Japan and Continental countries. Japan supplied hosiery to the value of ₹35·34 lakhs (£235,600) against ₹38·39 lakhs (£255,900) in 1907-08; and goods to the value of ₹95,000 (£6,300) which came *vid* Hongkong and the Straits were probably also of Japanese origin. Germany, however, has now become an important participant in this trade with a total of ₹11·16 lakhs (£74,400).

**Silk goods**—The imports of silk goods represent 5·2 per cent of the total imports of textile manufactures. It is satisfactory to note that the decline which appeared in this trade for some years has in the last two years been replaced by successive advances. In 1907-08 the figures were ₹213·49 lakhs (£1,423,300); and in the year under review they were ₹228·14 lakhs (£1,520,900), the net increase being ₹14·65 lakhs (£97,600) or 6·8 per cent. Of this, **piecegoods** represent ₹145·56 lakhs (£970,400) or 63·8 per cent of the whole, the increase in this case being ₹3·38 lakhs (£22,500), equal to 2·4 per cent of the previous year's figure. This increase is more than accounted for by that of ₹4·72 lakhs (£31,500) or 5·5 per cent in the consignments from the predominant shipper, Japan, which sent goods to the value of ₹90·96 lakhs (£606,400) in place of ₹86·24 lakhs (£574,900). The imports from China, which had shown an advance in 1907-08, fell back from ₹42·45 lakhs (£283,000) to ₹42·19 lakhs (£281,000); and those from the Straits Settlements rose from ₹68,000 (£4,500) in 1907-08 to ₹82,000 (£5,500). The Eastern section of the trade represented by these three sources now represents 92 per cent of the whole. Goods of **silk mixed** with other materials had advanced in 1907-08 but receded in 1908-09 by 10·2 per cent to ₹43·06 lakhs (£287,000). **Other sorts** consist mainly of **warps and yarn** imported for the production of textiles for the Indian market; and these increased from ₹22·7 lakhs (£151,300) to ₹38·67 lakhs (£257,800), the expansion amounting to ₹15·97 lakhs (£106,500) or 70 per cent.

**Woollen goods** represent about 6·7 per cent of the total value of textile goods imported into India. The trade responded to lower prices; and the total value of the imports rose from ₹276·76 lakhs (£1,845,100) to ₹291·09 lakhs (£1,940,600) or by 5·2 per cent. Of the net increase of ₹14·33 lakhs (£95,500), the whole may be ascribed to shawls. **Piecegoods**, while showing at 19,788,721 yards, a minute advance on the earlier year's figures, fell in total value from ₹192·78 lakhs (£1,285,200) to ₹187·08 lakhs (£1,247,200). The expansion of ·55 per cent in quantity was therefore accompanied by a shrinkage of 2·9 per cent in value, and this marks a contraction of 3 per cent in the average

value per yard. The share of the United Kingdom in this branch of the trade receded from R143·46 lakhs (£956,400) to R127·79 lakhs (£851,900) or by R15·67 lakhs (£104,500); while Germany's share expanded from R32·25 lakhs (£215,000) to R41·08 lakhs (£273,900), the increase being R8·83 lakhs (£58,900). The drop in the one case was 10·9 per cent; and the rise in the other was 27·4 per cent, bringing the shares of the countries respectively to 68·3 per cent and 21·9 per cent of the whole. In **shawls,** on the other hand, there was a substantial advance of R18·73 lakhs (£124,900) or 54·8 per cent, bringing the total value to R52·88 lakhs (£352,500) in place of R34·15 lakhs (£227,700). In two years, the number of shawls imported has grown from 790,118 in 1906-07 to 1,203,372 in 1907-08, and then to 2,030,081 in 1908-09, the increase in the last year being one of 68·7 per cent. The average value per shawl in these successive years was R2-0-2 (2*s.* 8$\frac{1}{6}$*d.*), R2-13-5 (3*s.* 9$\frac{5}{12}$*d.*), and R2-9-8 (3*s.* 5$\frac{2}{3}$*d.*). Germany supplied 1,810,706 or 89 per cent of the total number. **Woollen hosiery** declined from 387,778 lbs and R10·01 lakhs (£66,700) to 331,569 lbs and R9·7 lakhs (£64,700); and of this the United Kingdom sent 303,878 lbs and R8·74 lakhs (£58,300) or 90 per cent. **Yarn** again declined from 781,854 lbs and R17·29 lakhs (£115,300) to 757,730 lbs and R15·55 lakhs (£103,700); and of this Germany supplied no less than 78 per cent.

**Other manufactured goods**—Of these the following are the most important:

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | Increase (+) or decrease (−) per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | |
| Apparel including boots and shoes | 2,58,30,052 = | 1,722,003 | 2,41,72,582 = | 1,611,505 | −6·4 |
| Arms and ammunition | 48,72,970 | 324,865 | 32,47,531 | 216,502 | −33·3 |
| Books and printed matter | 33,13,548 | 220,903 | 40,37,892 | 269,193 | +21·9 |
| Building materials | 52,58,135 | 350,542 | 61,58,075 | 410,538 | +17·1 |
| Carriages and carts | 1,17,99,707 | 786,647 | 92,77,657 | 618,510 | −21·4 |
| Clocks and watches | 20,01,548 | 133,436 | 18,45,090 | 123,006 | −7·8 |
| Earthenware and porcelain | 42,22,143 | 281,476 | 42,37,849 | 282,523 | +·4 |
| Glass and glassware | 1,44,51,774 | 963,452 | 1,16,93,291 | 779,553 | −19·1 |
| Instruments and apparatus— | | | | | |
| Electrical | 49,07,850 | 327,190 | 45,81,773 | 305,452 | −6·6 |
| Musical | 44,06,557 | 293,770 | 29,77,641 | 198,509 | −32·4 |
| Scientific | 27,85,975 | 185,732 | 31,32,757 | 208,850 | +12·4 |
| Jewellery and gold and silver plate | 16,61,590 | 110,773 | 18,25,140 | 121,676 | +9·8 |
| Leather and manufactures of leather | 38,33,389 | 255,559 | 36,32,618 | 242,175 | −5·2 |
| Matches | 73,76,836 | 491,789 | 74,50,068 | 496,671 | +1 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 62,37,084 | 415,806 | 59,65,392 | 397,693 | −4·4 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 99,24,262 | 661,617 | 92,63,396 | 617,560 | −6·6 |
| Ships, parts of | 29,87,054 | 199,137 | 37,68,003 | 251,200 | +26·1 |
| Soap | 41,72,147 | 278,143 | 40,75,962 | 271,731 | −2·3 |
| Stationery | 44,38,065 | 295,871 | 43,79,034 | 291,936 | −1·3 |
| Tea chests | 26,94,372 | 179,625 | 37,43,828 | 249,589 | +39 |
| Toys and requisites for games | 35,04,505 | 233,634 | 31,32,102 | 208,807 | −10·6 |
| Umbrellas | 19,96,769 | 133,118 | 17,87,601 | 119,173 | −10·5 |
| Umbrella fittings | 25,90,873 | 172,725 | 19,27,822 | 128,521 | −25·6 |

The largest item among these is the composite one **Apparel;** and though it shows a contraction of R16·57 lakhs (£110,400) or 6·4 per cent, its total is still well in advance of that for 1906-07. **Glass,** in spite of a decline of R27·6 lakhs (£184,000) or 19 per cent, retains second place; while **carriages and**

**carts,** with a drop of R25·2 lakhs (£168,000) or 21·4 per cent, barely maintain their position. This heading includes **Motor cars and motor cycles** at R43·14 lakhs (£287,600) which marks a decrease of R20·3 lakhs (£135,300) or 32 per cent. **Cycles** on the other hand improved by R1·6 lakhs (£10,600) or 7·2 per cent to R23·74 lakhs (£158,300). **Paper and pasteboard** lost ground at the rate of 6·6 per cent or by R6·61 lakhs (£44,000), and of this decline the major part or R5·31 lakhs (£35,400) was accounted for by printing paper with a diminished total of R30·96 lakhs (£206,400). **Matches** have bettered their position by about 1 per cent; but they represent the only single article of the first dimension in this list which recorded an advance in the year under review. **Building materials,** it is true, show an advance of R9 lakhs (£60,000) or 17 per cent, but the heading is a composite one; and the first rank so far as total value is concerned can scarcely be conceded to those other articles that have progressed in 1908-09. Among them are **Books and printed matter** with an increase of R7·24 lakhs (£48,300) or 21·9 per cent, **Earthenware** with an advance of nearly ·4 per cent, **Scientific instruments** with one of 12·4 per cent, **Jewellery and plate** with 9·8 per cent, **Tea chests** with 39 per cent, and **Parts of ships** with one of 26 per cent. The course of this item is very variable; for when river steamers are being imported in parts by one or other of the steamer companies large sums appear in the statistics, and when the programme is complete a marked fall takes place. In the year under review the increase was R7·81, lakhs (£52,100) and Burma after a year of inaction brought in parts to the value of R27·44 lakhs (£183,000), against only R7·7 lakhs (51,300) in 1907-08. **Paints, etc.,** fell by R2·72 lakhs (£18,100), **Stationery** by R59,000 (£3,933), **Soap** by R96,000 (£6,400), and **Leather** by R2 lakhs (£13,300). The simultaneous declines of R2·09 lakhs (£14,000) or 10·5 per cent in **Umbrellas** and of R6·63 lakhs (£44,200) or 25·6 per cent in **Umbrella fittings** attract attention because of the extent to which the trade in these articles has developed in recent years.

**The principal articles of importation** into India and their values in each of the last three years are shown in the following statement, the **unit being 1,000:**

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1. Cotton manufactures— | | | | | | |
| *Grey piece goods* | *18,70,74* | *=12,472* | *19,41,88* | *=12,946* | *15,19,11* | *=10,127* |
| *White* „ | *7,37,95* | *4,920* | *11,82,51* | *7,883* | *7,77,70* | *5,185* |
| *Coloured* „ | *9,55,74* | *6,371* | *10,79,98* | *7,200* | *9,25,11* | *6,167* |
| *Yarn* | *3,22,32* | *2,149* | *3,69 32* | *2,462* | *3,64,88* | *2,433* |
| *Other sorts* | *2,05,00* | *1,366* | *2,30.56* | *1,537* | *2,14,66* | *1,431* |
| TOTAL | 40,91,75 | 27,278 | 48,04,25 | 32,028 | 38,01,46 | 25,343 |
| 2. Sugar | 8,73,81 | 5,825 | 9,22,70 | 6,151 | 10,90,66 | 7,271 |
| 3. Iron and steel | 7,56,82 | 5,045 | 9,75,16 | 6,501 | 9,04,39 | 6,029 |
| 4. Railway material | 4,15,84 | 2,772 | 7,20,08 | 4,800 | 7,41,99 | 4,947 |
| 5. Machinery and millwork | 5,79,00 | 3,860 | 6,58,53 | 4,390 | 6,61,60 | 4,411 |
| 6. Mineral oil | 2,42,70 | 1,618 | 3,19,33 | 2,129 | 3,90,91 | 2,606 |
| 7. Hardware and cutlery | 2,65,35 | 1,769 | 3,16,54 | 2,110 | 2,92,58 | 1,950 |
| 8. Woollen manufactures | 2,05,22 | 1,368 | 2,76,76 | 1,845 | 2,91,09 | 1,941 |
| 9. Provisions | 2,42,33 | 1,615 | 2,74,00 | 1,827 | 2,81,32 | 1,875 |
| 10. Copper | 1,39,31 | 929 | 2,06,34 | 1,376 | 2,72,13 | 1,814 |
| 11. Apparel | 2,11,23 | 1,408 | 2,58,30 | 1,722 | 2,41,73 | 1,611 |
| 12. Silk manufactures | 1,82,50 | 1,217 | 2,13,49 | 1,423 | 2,28,14 | 1,521 |

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 13. Spices | 1,43,93 | =959 | 1,56,17 | =1,041 | 1,37,40 | =916 |
| 14. Instruments and apparatus | 1,19,87 | 799 | 1,36,33 | 909 | 1,23,81 | 825 |
| 15. Glass and glassware | 1,21,14 | 808 | 1,44,52 | 963 | 1,16,93 | 779 |
| 16. Spirits | 98,69 | 658 | 1,10,44 | 736 | 1,12,68 | 751 |
| 17. Silk, raw | 56,80 | 379 | 98,15 | 654 | 1,01,79 | 679 |
| 18. Carriages and carts | 92,46 | 616 | 1,18,00 | 787 | 92,78 | 618 |
| 19. Paper and pasteboard | 80,11 | 534 | 99,24 | 662 | 92,63 | 618 |
| 20. Salt | 66,77 | 445 | 80,21 | 535 | 84,07 | 560 |
| 21. Coal | 48,60 | 324 | 59,35 | 396 | 82,25 | 543 |
| 22. Aniline and alizarine dyes | 74,93 | 499 | 84,65 | 564 | 80,48 | 537 |
| 23. Tobacco | 69,33 | 462 | 84,36 | 562 | 79,42 | 529 |
| 24. Chemicals | 68,76 | 458 | 79,28 | 529 | 74,68 | 498 |
| 25. Matches | 63,13 | 421 | 73,77 | 492 | 74,50 | 497 |
| 26. Drugs and medicines | 78,66 | 520 | 90,92 | 606 | 72,82 | 485 |
| 27. Timber | 79,28 | 528 | 80,25 | 535 | 72,34 | 482 |
| 28. Paints and colours and painters' materials | 56,75 | 378 | 62,37 | 416 | 59,65 | 398 |
| 29. Beer | 60,27 | 402 | 61,11 | 407 | 58,10 | 387 |
| 30. Cotton | 45,89 | 306 | 70,95 | 473 | 53,03 | 354 |
| 31. Precious stones and pearls | 93,38 | 623 | 69,57 | 464 | 51,62 | 344 |
| 32. Stationery (excluding paper) | 40,40 | 269 | 44,38 | 296 | 43,79 | 292 |
| 33. Horses | 44,89 | 299 | 38,33 | 256 | 28,43 | 190 |

The most remarkable feature here is the decline of some ₹10·03 crores or 20·9 per cent in **cotton manufactures.** Mention may also be made of the increase in **sugar** which establishes it for the moment as the second article in order of importance, and of the rise in the arrivals of **copper** under the influence of low prices. The increase was greater in quantity than might appear from the figures of value. The decline in the imports of **Aniline and alizarine dyes** is noteworthy as marking the first reaction under this head for some years.

The **Sources of imported merchandise** have so far been assumed in the Indian trade accounts to be those countries from which the goods were shipped in such vessels as landed them in India. In the case of transhipment cargo, the port of such transhipment appeared as the port of origin unless a through Bill of Lading has been granted at the port of original shipment. When such through Bill of Lading has been granted, the country of first shipment is assigned as the country of origin. Arrangements now in force furnish statistics by which the true countries of origin are more correctly shown; but retrospective figures on that basis have not yet become available; and for the purpose of comparison it is necessary as yet to use the statistics constituted on the old basis. According to these statistics the value of imports has in the last five years been appropriated to the various principal countries in the proportion shown below:

| | 1904-05 per cent | 1905-06 per cent | 1906-07 per cent | 1907-08 per cent | 1908-09 per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 United Kingdom | 65·2 | 66·7 | 66·8 | 66·7 | 62·6 |
| 2 Java | 2·1 | 1·8 | 2·7 | 4·5 | 5·1 |
| 3 Belgium | 3·6 | 4·3 | 4 | 4·1 | 4·2 |
| 4 Germany | 3·9 | 4·2 | 5·3 | 4 | 4·1 |
| 5 Austria-Hungary | 4·1 | 4 | 2·8 | 2 | 3·2 |
| 6 Straits Settlements | 3·2 | 2·5 | 2·6 | 2·4 | 2·8 |
| 7 United States | 1·1 | 2·2 | 2·3 | 2·5 | 2·7 |
| 8 Mauritius | 2·1 | 2 | 2 | 1·9 | 2·1 |
| 9 China | 2 | 1·7 | 1·4 | 1·7 | 1·9 |
| 10 Japan | 1·2 | 1·2 | 1·5 | 1·7 | 1·7 |
| 11 France | 1·9 | 1·7 | 1·4 | 1·6 | 1·5 |
| 12 Italy | 1·3 | 1·1 | 1 | 0·9 | 0·9 |
| 13 Russia | 1·7 | 0·3 | 0·1 | 0·3 | 0·2 |

The total value was R121·26 crores (£80,840,000) against R129·89 crores (£86,590,000) in 1907-08. The United Kingdom with R75·93 crores (£50,620,000) has lost a part of its lead largely as a consequence of the heavy declines in imports of cotton goods. Java with its enormous shipments of sugar has assumed the second place with R6·2 crores (£4,130,000) against R5·8 crores (£3,870,000) in the previous year. Belgium, with R5·17 crores (£3,450,000) against R5·31 crores (£3,540,000), and Germany, with R4·93 crores (£3,290,000) against R5·16 crores (£3,440,000), are in the third and fourth places; but it is known that the present system of registration fails to distinguish in all cases those German goods that are shipped from Belgium. Conjointly they did 8·3 per cent of the trade against 8·1 per cent in 1907-08 Austria-Hungary has assumed the fifth place with R3·87 crores (£2,580,000), against R2·65 crores (£1,770,000) in the previous year. The Straits Settlements have also improved their position with R3·5 crores (£2,330,000) in place of R3·15 crores (£2,100,000). The trade with the United States has increased from R3·24 crores (£2,160,000) to R3·26 crores (£2,170,000); and this in a year of diminished total raises the percentages. Mauritius, the second great source of imported cane sugar, also increased her trade from R2·44 crores (£1,630,000) to R2·56 crores (£1,710,000). Japan's trade with India fell off from R2·17 crores (£1,450,000) to R2·12 crores (£1,410,000), while China supersedes her with R2·32 crores (£1,550,000) in place of R2·2 crores (£1,470,000) in 1907-08. The share of France suffers from the diminution of her total from R2·03 crores (£1,350,000) to R1·81 crores (£1,210,000). That of Italy remains unchanged, although her total was only R1·13 crores (£753,000) as compared with R1·19 crores (£793,000); and Russia comes last with a diminished total of R27·97 lakhs (£186,500) in place of R40·14 lakhs (£267,600) in the previous year.

**Imports of Government stores** are not included in the foregoing figures. They amounted to R751·24 lakhs (£5,008,300) as compared with R664·29 lakhs (£4,428,600) in 1907-08. Of this total, R707·89 lakhs (£4,719,300) came from the United Kingdom, as against R615·24 lakhs (£4,101,600) in 1907-08. The absolute increase in the share of the United Kingdom was therefore R92·65 lakhs (£617,700) or 15 per cent, which raised that share from 92·6 to 94·2 per cent of the total.

Material for State Railways amounted to R451·95 lakhs (£3,013,000) or 60 per cent of the total, while in the previous year the figure was R268·66 lakhs (£1,791,100) or 40·4 per cent. Imports of other descriptions of stores therefore fell from R395·63 lakhs (£2,637,500) to R299·3 lakhs (£1,995,300), the difference being R96·33 lakhs (£642,200). It may be said that all these stores, with unimportant exceptions, really represent commercial transactions.

It may be mentioned here that the imports of material for railways, State and non-State, have in the last three years been as follows:—1906-07, R849·29 lakhs (£5,669,000); 1907-08, R988·74 lakhs (£6,591,600); 1908-09, R1193·94 lakhs (£7,959,600). In the same period the share of the United Kingdom in the total import trade, including Goverement stores, has been—1906-07, 68·8 per cent; 1907-08, 68 per cent; 1908-09, 64·5 per cent.

## EXPORTS OF IMPORTED GOODS

In the last three years the value of the re-exports by sea has been on an average 2·1 per cent of the total exports of the merchandise and has represented

2·9 per cent of the imports from which they were derived. The development of direct communications between various parts of the world tends to diminish the trade of entrepots, so a fairly continuous decline in this branch of India's trade might be looked for. It has in fact taken place since 1895-96 when the figures stood at R4·72 crores (£3·15 millions). A slight recovery had appeared in the figures for 1907-08; but in the year under review the contraction was resumed and the total value at R3·17 crores (£2·11 millions) showed a drop of R59·66 lakhs (£398,000). The following statement records the extent of the trade in each of the last four years with averages for two earlier quinquennial periods:

| | | ₹ | | £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, | 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . . | 3,83,32,026 | = | 3,042,300 |
| „ | 1900-01 to 1904-05 . . | 3,22,06,440 | | 2,148,672 |
| In the year | 1905-06 . . . . | 3,52,88,100 | | 2,352,540 |
| „ | 1906-07 . . . . | 3,48,40,390 | | 2,322,693 |
| „ | 1907-08 . . . . | 3,76,73,353 | | 2,511,557 |
| „ | 1908-09 . . . . | 3,17,06,999 | | 2,113,800 |

The chief ports of Western India continued to do the larger part of this trade. But their share of the total declined from 90 per cent to 87·2 per cent; and the decline was more marked in this branch of the trade than in the shipments from Eastern India to the further East. The share of Bombay itself, namely, R230·36 lakhs (£1,536,000), fell away from 77 to about 73 per cent. The greater part of the re-exportation is in manufactured goods from Western countries. **Cotton goods** continue to constitute the most important class, though the decline, which was interrupted in 1907-08, has been resumed and has brought the percentage to 35·5 per cent as against 39·4 per cent in 1907-08 and 37·7 per cent in 1906-07. **Piece goods,** after rising to R133·3 lakhs (£888,700) in 1907-08, have now declined to R101·53 lakhs (£677,000), and of these **grey goods** fell from R11·54 lakhs (£77,000) to R8·41 lakhs (£56,000) and **coloured goods** from R105·75 lakhs (£705,000) to R79·66 lakhs (£531,000), the loss being R26·1 lakhs (£174,000) or nearly 25 per cent. **Yarns,** which in 1907-08 had risen to R9·07 lakhs (£60,500), fell to R5·66 lakhs (£37,700); this is little more than in 1906-07 with its high prices. Persia, which is the chief buyer, took only R4·13 lakhs (£27,500) against R5·99 lakhs (£40,000) in 1907-08 and R4·14 lakhs (£27,600) in 1906-07. The decline in **metals,** which began markedly in 1907-08, reducing the value from R29·73 lakhs (£198,000) to R20·72 lakhs (£138,000), became emphasised in the total for the year under review, when it fell by 34·9 per cent to R13·48 lakhs (£90,000). **Apparel** also returned from R19 lakhs (£126,700) to R15·03 lakhs (£100,200) which is below the level of two years ago; while **sugar,** which in two successive years had gone from R20·2 lakhs (£134,700) to R10·11 lakhs (£67,400), made a small recovery to R11·73 lakhs (£78,200). **Oils,** which have also shown a weakening tendency in recent years, fell away by 23 per cent from R1·70 lakhs (£11,300) to R1·31 lakhs (£8,700). Exports of **foreign tea,** which in 1907-08 recovered to 991,305 lbs, fell to 833,996 lbs, the decline being one of 15·9 per cent. In exports to *Persia* the decline from 350,000 to 190,500 lbs represented one of 45·5 per cent, but exports to *Russia* continued their growth and reached 71,549 lbs against 35,860 lbs in 1907-08, and *Turkey in Asia* took 389,898 lbs as against 422,139 lbs in the previous year.

Persia's share contracted by R17·36 lakhs (£115,700) or 27 per cent to a sum of R46·91 lakhs (£312,700), which represents 14·8 per cent of the whole. Arabia also showed a decline of R7·99 lakhs (£53,300) or 30·5 per cent and brought her share down to 5·7 per cent, while Turkey, Asiatic, receded to R25·63 lakhs (£171,000) or 8·1 per cent of the total. Aden, which is mainly a distributing point, receded to R15·15 lakhs (£101,000) or 4·8 per cent of the trade. Ceylon at R15·93 lakhs (£106,200) improved her share to 5 per cent and British East Africa with R11·69 lakhs (£78,000) reduced her share to 3·7 per cent of the total trade. China at R16·8 lakhs (£112,000) improved her share to 5·3 per cent of the whole. The Straits Settlements form an *entrepot*, and their share is now R12·8 lakhs (£85,300) or 4 per cent of the total trade.

Re-exports to Western countries are comparatively small, but the share of the **United Kingdom** at R73·35 lakhs (£489,000) as against R84·86 lakhs (£565,700) in 1907-08 represents 23·1 per cent of the whole as against 22·5 per cent. The chief commodity is **raw wool**, which comes partly by the land frontiers and is exported mainly from Karachi; and this article, which had grown for some years, fell back from 5,262,962 lbs valued at R32·76 lakhs (£218,400) to 4,994,593 lbs with a value of R27·91 lakhs (£186,000). The following articles showed declines as detailed: **Hardware and cutlery** (R3·07 lakhs=£20,500); **Silk, raw and manufactured** (R1·86 lakhs=£12,400); **Drugs and medicines** (R1·45 lakhs=£9,700); **Provisions** (R1·3 lakhs =£8,700); **Glass and glassware** (R1·07 lakhs=£7,100); **Earthenware and porcelain** (R86,000 = £5,700); and **coral** (R79,000=£5,300). The only substantial off-sets to these cumulative decreases were the increase in **sugar** already referred to and those in **Carriages and carts** (R1·1 lakhs=£7,300) and **Machinery and millwork** (R70,000=£4,700).

## EXPORTS OF INDIAN MERCHANDISE

**Exports of Indian merchandise** in 1908-09 formed 97·9 per cent of the total exports and about 54·6 per cent of the total trade in merchandise. Their total value was R149·82 crores (£99·88 millions) as compared with R173·48 crores (£115·65 millions) in 1907-08. The decline was therefore one of R23·65 crores (£15·77 millions) or 13·6 per cent, and this comes after a series of successive annual advances. The following statement shows the progress made in the past 29 years, **the unit being 1,000:**

| | R | £ | Percentage, Increase (+) or Decrease (—) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Average 1880-81 to 1884-85 . | 79,44,53 = | 64,987 | — |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 . | 88,75,15 | 63,275 | +11·7 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 . | 1,01,43,44 | 65,467 | +14·3 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . | 1,03,64,93 | 65,243 | +2·2 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 . | 1,31,00,38 | 87,396 | +26·4 |
| In the year 1905-06 . . | 1,58,18,92 | 105,459 | +20·7 |
| „ 1906-07 . . | 1,73,08,20 | 115,388 | +9·4 |
| „ 1907-08 . . | 1,73,47,82 | 115,652 | +0·2 |
| „ 1908-09 . . | 1,49,82,39 | 99,883 | —13·6 |

The principal articles in the export trade of the last three years are enumerated below with their values **in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling:**

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1 Jute | 26,83,87= | 17,892 | 17,97,28= | 11,982 | 19,83,45 | 13,223 |
| 2 Cotton, raw | 21,97,85 | 14,652 | 25,70,25 | 17,135 | 19,76,85 | 13,179 |
| 3 Rice | 18,52,95 | 12,353 | 20,33,91 | 13,559 | 15,89,02 | 10,593 |
| 4 Jute manufactures | 15,71,62 | 10,477 | 18,29,76 | 12,198 | 15,73,60 | 10,491 |
| 5 Hides and skins | 15 34,52 | 10,230 | 10.95,15 | 7,301 | 12,46,77 | 8,312 |
| 6 Seeds | 13,02,17 | 8,681 | 16,81,52 | 11,210 | 11,67,81 | 7,785 |
| 7 Cottonyarn and cloth | 12,16,82 | 8,112 | 10,76,66 | 7,178 | 11,53.72 | 7,691 |
| 8 Tea | 9,85,78 | 6,572 | 10,30,03 | 6,867 | 10,39.37 | 6,929 |
| 9 Opium | 9.30,79 | 6,205 | 8,67.25 | 5,782 | 9,34,92 | 6,233 |
| 10 Lac | 3,49,98 | 2,333 | 4,08.31 | 2,722 | 2,79,47 | 1,863 |
| 11 Wool, raw | 2,42,65 | 1,618 | 2,10,38 | 1,403 | 2,08.37 | 1,389 |
| 12 Wheat and wheat flour | 7,84,02 | 5,227 | 9,14,56 | 6,097 | 1,86,12 | 1.241 |
| 13 Coffee | 99,64 | 664 | 1,11,45 | 743 | 1,39,00 | 927 |
| 14 Oils | 69,86 | 466 | 85,82 | 572 | 94.44 | 630 |
| 15 Pulse. millets, and cereals | 1,28,56 | 857 | 2,02,41 | 1,349 | 81,72 | 545 |
| 16 Provisions | 65,11 | 434 | 75,46 | 503 | 76,11 | 507 |
| 17 Spices | 60,20 | 401 | 52,70 | 351 | 58,53 | 390 |
| 18 Wood and timber | 83,17 | 554 | 82,69 | 551 | 57,62 | 384 |
| 19 Silk, raw | 68,65 | 458 | 63,78 | 423 | 54,05 | 360 |
| 20 Indigo | 70,05 | 467 | 63,73 | 425 | 49,05 | 327 |

For the second time **raw jute** has supplanted raw cotton as the single export article of largest value; and, together with its manufactures, it represents a larger total than cotton and its manufactures. Raw jute though still far short of the record figure of 1906-07, showed an increase of ₹186·17 lakhs (£1,241,000) or 10·4 per cent; but, as **jute manufactures** declined by ₹256·16 lakhs (£1,707,700) or 14 per cent, the aggregate of the two classes showed a loss of about ₹70 lakhs (£467,000). **Raw cotton** on the other hand declined by no less than ₹593·4 lakhs (£3,956,000) or 23·1 per cent, while **cotton manufactures** added only ₹77·05 lakhs (£514,000) or 7·2 per cent to their value, leaving a net decline of ₹516·34 lakhs (£3,442,000) equal to 14·4 per cent. Exports of **Rice** were lower than they have been at any time since 1901-02. **Wheat** and **wheat flour** figured at only ₹1·86 crores (£1·24 millions), having lost 79·6 per cent of the total for 1907-08, and the class **Pulses, millets, and cereals** not specified dropped by 59·6 per cent or ₹120·69 lakhs (£804,600) to a figure unprecedentedly low. In addition to the articles specified in the foregoing list, there are others which in recent years have generally attained some importance. These are **Manures** with a reduced total of ₹90·06 lakhs (£600,400); **Fodder, bran, and cattlefood** with a diminished value of ₹131·76 lakhs (£878,400); **Indian metals and manufactures thereof** with a diminished value of ₹86·75 (£578,300); **Coir manufactures** expanding at ₹62·75 lakhs (£418,300); and **raw hemp** and **Coal and coke** at ₹59·68 lakhs (£398,000) and ₹50·51 lakhs (£336,700) respectively. **Fruits and vegetables**, having nearly doubled its total in the single year, attained a level (₹69·58 lakhs=£464,000) that would shortly command a place in the tabular statement; while **saltpetre**, having remained at about ₹41 lakhs (£273,300) in the preceding two years, also made a notable advance to ₹45·35 lakhs (£302,300). The net increase of ₹8·62 lakhs (£57,500) in **oils** is derived solely from the expansion of ₹23·15 lakhs (£154,300) in **cocoanut oil**. This represents 134·8 per cent on the figures for 1907-08; but it was offset in part by falls of ₹7·53 lakhs (£50,200) in **castor oil**, ₹3·54 lakhs (£23,600) in **mineral oil**, and about ₹2·3 lakhs (£15,300) under each of the heads **essential** and **mustard**.

The statement below shows for three years the value in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling** of the trade in each of the four principal classes under which articles are grouped in the accounts:

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Articles of food and drink . | 40,23,64=26,824 | | 44,73,17=29,821 | | 32,54,09=21,694 | |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials . . | 11,55,74 | 7,705 | 11,03,78 | 7,359 | 11,47,29 | 7,649 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . . | 81,53,23 | 54,355 | 76,23,00 | 50,820 | 67,18,50 | 44,790 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . | 37,85,54 | 25,237 | 39,29,81 | 26,199 | 36,65,46 | 24,436 |

## ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

These represent 21·7 per cent of the total exports but about 26·8 per cent of the total imports. In this class there was a net decline of ₹12·19 crores (£8,127,000) or 27·2 per cent in value, the total being ₹32·54 crores (£21,693,000) as against ₹44·73 crores (£29,820,000) in 1907-08. The largest single decline was that of ₹7·28 crores (£4,853,000) in **wheat and wheat flour,** which receded to ₹1·86 crores (£1,240,000) on the shortage of food crops in India and the rise of wheat prices above exportation point. **Rice** likewise declined by some ₹4·45 crores (£2,967,000) to ₹15·89 crores (£10,593,000). **Other food grains,** which stood at ₹2·02 crores (£1,347,000) in 1907-08, fell away to ₹82 lakhs (£547,000). It may be said that these variations mark the year as altogether abnormal; but to anyone who knows the extent to which all parts of India are subject to vicissitudes in respect of weather and crops, they serve as a reminder of the precariousness of an Indian exportable surplus and the exceeding diffidence with which it is necessary to regard any estimate of its normal level. The progress in **Tea** was maintained; and the addition of ₹9·34 lakhs (£62,300) to its value brought the total to ₹10·39 crores (£6,927,000). **Fruits** advanced by ₹31·34 lakhs (£209,000) to ₹69·58 lakhs (£464,000), which represents an improvement of 82 per cent; and **Coffee** at ₹1·39 crores (£926,000) made an advance of ₹27·54 lakhs (£184,000) or 24·7 per cent.

**Coffee**—The exports of coffee represent some 4·3 per cent of the total exports of articles of food and drink. During the past three years the coffee trade has been unsettled by the nugatory "valorization" scheme in Brazil which was evoked by the abnormal crop of 1906-07. This resulted in the creation of a heavy reserve stock which the Government found it impossible to liquidate, and which lay heavily on the market preventing that rise in price which the scheme was designed to bring about. Some of the initial purchases by the Government of Sao Paulo were made in 1906 at 4 $750 per 10 kilos of No. 4 New York Type which is now quoted at 3 $525. Resort has been had successively to laws restricting exportation, to heavy borrowing for the financing of the scheme, and to the establishment in London of a subsidised company to push the sale in England of coffee officially guaranteed pure. But only in respect of the last can it be said that there still remains any substantial hope of success; and in the latter half of 1908 the market was further disturbed by reports that the Government of Sao Paulo had, in spite of its statutory obligations, effected clandestine realization of some of its holding in the European market. Since

Brazilian coffee now constitutes some two-thirds of the world's supply it is not surprising that the trade in India should have felt the incubus of the heavy reserves elsewhere. In the circumstances it is satisfactory to find that the statistics for 1908-09 indicate some recovery from the declines recorded in the previous past years. The following statement summarises the results of the trade in the last five years :

| | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 . . . . . | 329,647 | 1,66,09,757 = | 1,107,317 |
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 360,182 | 1,75,67,240 | 1,171,149 |
| 1906-07 . . . . . | 228,094 | 99,64,778 | 664,319 |
| 1907-08 . . . . . | 244,234 | 1,11,45,202 | 743,013 |
| 1908-09 . . . . . | 302,022 | 1,38,99,792 | 926,653 |

The increase of 23·7 per cent in quantity together with one of 24·7 per cent in value marks a minute improvement in average value, so far as declared values of exports can be relied on. But there is too much reason to believe that the trade has in fact been anything but remunerative; and the total quantity and value are still a long way below those for 1905-06.

The shipments to the United Kingdom and those to France each represent something over 43 per cent of the total; and while those to the United Kingdom rose to 131,927 cwts, those to France rose to 130,555 cwts. It is known that most of the superior coffee shipped to the United Kingdom is distributed to other parts of the world; and to this cause is due the striking uniformity with which the rise or fall of the exports to England conforms to the variations in the Continental and American demand.

**Fruits and vegetables**—The value of the exports of fruits and vegetables made a further advance from ₹38·24 lakhs (£255,000) to ₹69·58 lakhs (£464,000), the increase being one of ₹31·34 lakhs (£209,000) or 82 per cent. The principal article in this class is **Copra**w hich would probably be better grouped with other materials for the oil industry, as is done in certain foreign countries. It now represents 76·2 per cent of the total value of the class and figures at 395,126 cwts and ₹ 52·99 lakhs (£353,000) as against 119,829 cwts and ₹21·58 lakhs (£144,000) in 1907-08. The increase is one of 229·7 per cent in quantity and 145·5 per cent in total value, by which difference a decline of 25·5 per cent in average value would appear to be indicated. The sum of ₹31·41 lakhs (£209,000), by which this single article developed, more than accounts for the total increase indicated above, and in "others" with a total of ₹16·59 lakhs (£110,600) there was a decline of some ₹7,000 (£467).

**Rice** formed 85·6 per cent of the total value of food grains from India in 1908-09, as against 64·5 per cent in 1907-08, and represented 10·6 per cent of the value of all Indian produce exported as compared with 11·7 per cent in the previous year.

For the third year in succession, the salient feature of the Indian rice trade has been the strong internal demand and the curtailment of the exportable surplus. That surplus may be diminished either by poverty of outturn in the crop itself or by shortage in other food grains for which rice may be substituted, or by exceptional prosperity and enhanced consuming power among cultivators of crops other than food grains, or by a disposition on the part of cultivators to grow such specially profitable crops in place of rice. All of these causes have operated in recent years, but such of them as depend on the exceptionally profitable cultivation of other crops have in 1908-09 been less operative than in

either of the two previous years, seeing that the price of jute has very greatly fallen. But the shortage of food grains in Northern India and in parts of Bengal imposed a heavy demand on the Burman supplies, and maintained prices at a level inconveniently high for the exporter. Many districts of India, which a few years ago rejected Burma rice as unwholesome, for the reason that the people had not learned the peculiar methods necessary in cooking it, have now been educated and have accepted this grain as useful. This means that in event of future shortage of food grains in India proper, her demand for Burma rice will be more ready than formerly; and the market will have to take this factor into account.

The total rice crops with which this review is mainly concerned were estimated at 19,945,490 tons as compared with 19,224,235 tons in the previous year.

The following statement shows *in thousands* the quantity and value of the exports abroad during the last five years :—

| | True Exports from all India | | | Burma's share of total per cent | Coastwise Exports from Burma | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | ₹ | £ | | Tons | ₹ | £ |
| 1904-05 . . | 2,474 | 19,61,90=13,079 | | 76·2 | 301 | 2,05,14=1,367 | |
| 1905-06 . . | 2,152 | 18,63,69 | 12,425 | 73·3 | 460 | 3,47,40 | 2,316 |
| 1906-07 . . | 1,935 | 18,52,51 | 12,350 | 73·4 | 813 | 7,22,84 | 4,819 |
| 1907-08 . . | 1,913 | 20,33,63 | 13,558 | 76·4 | 979 | 9,62,10 | 6,414 |
| 1908-09 . . | 1,512 | 15,88,75 | 10,592 | 72·4 | 1,157 | 12,04,91 | 8,033 |

The exports to foreign countries therefore declined by nearly 21 per cent or 401,000 tons, which makes the aggregate contraction recorded in three successive years one of 640,000 tons or nearly 30 per cent, in value the decline in 1908-09 was 21·9 per cent, and this would point to a drop of some 1·2 per cent in specific value. On the other hand the average price in Calcutta for Ballam rice No. 1, which was R8-5-0 (11*s.* 1*d.*) per cwt in 1907-08, was R8-4-3 (11*s.* 0¼*d.*) or ·6 per cent lower in 1908-09; while the average price for Ngatsain rice in Rangoon declined from R5-3-0 (6*s.* 11*d.*) to R4-14-3 (6*s.* 6¼*d.*) or by 5·7 per cent. Since the new Burma crop appeared on the market in December 1908, the price in Rangoon has ranged about R3-13-0 (5*s.* 1*d.*) which is lower than it has stood since August 1905. Burma's share of the exports to foreign countries was in quantity 72·4 per cent of the total exports from British India as compared with 76·4 per cent in the previous year.

The growth of Burma's shipments of rice to India proper is striking. In 1908-09 it amounted to 1,157,168 tons, which represents an advance of 18·1 per cent in one year and consumates increases of 151 per cent in three years and of 494 per cent in five years. The following statement shows the distribution of Burma's coastwise exports among the various ports of India :

| | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | Tons | Tons | Tons | Tons |
| Bengal . . . . | 4,538 | 40,220 | 276,040 | 431,301 | 550,957 |
| E. B. and Assam . . . | ... | ... | 239,006 | 142,341 | 21,486 |
| Bombay . . . . | 171,889 | 225,447 | 114,634 | 206,395 | 243,095 |
| Sind . . . . . | ... | ... | ... | ... | 91 |
| Madras . . . . | 116,005 | 172,054 | 172,772 | 173,733 | 322,611 |
| Travancore . . . . | 8,656 | 22,265 | 10,513 | 25,856 | 18,928 |
| Other Non-British Ports , | ... | 72 | 10 | ... | ... |
| TOTAL . | 301,088 | 460,058 | 812,975 | 979,626 | 1,157,168 |

It will of course be understood that a considerable part of the large shipments received in Bengal were landed at Calcutta in transit for other places in the interior. And here it may be noted that, whereas Bengal together with Eastern Bengal and Assam imported rice to a value exceeding the figure of the previous year by R21·2 lakhs (£141,600), they together exported raw jute exceeding the earlier year's record by R188·56 lakhs (£1,257,000).

Ceylon is the largest single purchaser of Indian rice and took 255,181 tons of a value of R3·21 crores (£2,140,000), as against 283,593 tons in 1907-08 with a value of R3 48 crores (£2,320,000). There were thus a decrease of 10 per cent in quantity and one of 7·7 per cent in value, which discrepancy indicates a rise of 2·6 per cent in specific value.

Japan's rice crop in 1908 was a record one, the outturn being estimated as 17 per cent larger than in 1907. It is therefore not surprising that her purchases of Indian rice, which a few years ago averaged 337,262 tons per annum, had fallen in 1907-08 to 125,000 tons, and have now subsided to 20,553 tons.

The exceptional shortage of rice in China had carried India's exports to that country to an average of 16,000 tons in the two previous years. In 1908-09 the exports to China fell to 2,764 tons which is comparable with the 4,315 tons sent in 1905-06. Although damage was done by floods in May and June the 1908 crop in some parts of China was exceptionally good and the Korean crop was estimated as 30 per cent greater than had been known for many years. The exports to the Straits Settlements subsided from 224,400 to 152,253 tons or by 32·1 per cent, but this was to be ascribed not merely to the decline of the Straits as an entrepot or point of distribution, but to the large supplies drawn thither from other sources. It is noticed that Bangkok, for instance, sent 404,822 tons of rice to Singapore in 1908 as compared with an average of 302,000 tons in the two previous years.

The practice of shipping rice to Egypt "for orders," and then forwarding it to destination not at first known, vitiates to some extent the figures relating to exports to western countries. For example, Egypt at first figured for 376,376 tons in the accounts of the previous year, but on re-adjustment this has been reduced to 59,035 tons, the balance of 317,341 tons having been distributed among other countries. So the following figures must be recognised as incomplete. Germany, whose direct imports of Indian rice had risen to 309,449 tons in 1907-08 with a value of R307 lakhs (£2,047,000), still retains her lead as the principal occidental consumer, but with a reduced total of 187,486 tons and R188·93 lakhs (£1,259,500). The United Kingdom also showed a decline with 127,715 tons and R119·66 lakhs (£798,000), in place of 152,865 tons and R167 41 lakhs (£1,116,000) in 1907-08; while shipments to Austria-Hungary fell away from 169,935 tons and R152·07 lakhs (£1,014,000) to 103,568 tons and R93·49 lakhs (£623,000).

The exports of **unhusked rice** increased from 27,658 tons valued R18·62 lakhs (£124,000) to 28,885 tons valued R18·72 lakhs (£124,800), of which Ceylon took 28,790 tons, included in the figures quoted above.

**Wheat** — On the average of the five years ending 1907-08, wheat represented 32·9 per cent of the value of all exports of food grains from India and 6·6 per cent of the total value of Indian merchandise exported.

Wheat in India is harvested in April to June. The statistical year begins with April. Therefore the trade statistics of one year relate to the crop statistics of the previous year. It will thus be understood how the figures that we

have now to examine reflect the disastrous rainfall conditions that characterised the monsoon of 1907. The rains ceased early. Sowings of all kinds were contracted; and wheat was in many places displaced in favour of food crops capable of earlier maturity. The area under wheat was reduced by 26 per cent and the outturn was about 27 per cent less than on the average of the previous five years. Famine conditions existed over wide tracts, and much of the reduced wheat crop which might have been available for export was diverted to serve internal demand. The following statement shows the Indian exports for 1908-09, in comparison with the crop data for 1907-08, and the average exports in the five years ended 1907-08, in comparison with the average crop data for the five years ended 1906-07. Comparison is also made between the figures for the year under review and those for the last preceding year; and in every case the percentage ratio of increase or decrease is brought out, the average of the earlier period or year being taken as 100:—

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average of previous five years. | Previous year. | Year under review (*b*) | Ratio of Col. 3 to | |
| | | | | Col. 1 | Col. 2. |
| Area, thousands of acres | 26,017 | 29,212 | 22,806 | 87·66 | 78·07 |
| Outturn, thousands of tons | 7,971 | 8,492 | 6,104 | 76·58 | 71·88 |
| Irrigated area, thousands of acres (*a*) | 8,563 | 9,208 | 8,306 | 97·0 | 90·2 |
| Exports, thousands of tons | 1,213 | 880 | 110 | 9·1 | 12·5 |
| Exports, thousands of rupees | 10,67,38 | 8,58,50 | 1,34,01 | 12·6 | 15·6 |
| Average export value, rupees per ton | 88 | 97·55 | 121·3 | 138·4 | 124·9 |
| Imports, thousands of tons | 9 | 13 | 29 | 322·2 | 223 |

It will be seen that the exports of wheat dropped to 109,757 tons, as compared with 880,459 tons in the previous year and with 1,213,003 tons on the average of the five years ending 1907-08. The value of these exports is estimated at R 1·34 crores (£893,300) as compared with R8·58 crores (£5,720,000) in 1907-08. Only about 6,000 tons went to places other than the United Kingdom. There would be little use in analysing the trade of a year that was so entirely abnormal. But in order that the scope and the usual distribution of the Indian wheat supply may be borne in mind, it is well to state that of the average exports (1,213,003 tons) the British Empire has taken 952,222 tons or 78·5 per cent, the United Kingdom alone absorbing 943,850 tons or 77·8 per cent. Of the 260,781 tons or 21·5 per cent purchased by Foreign countries Belgium consumes 137,215 tons, which is 11·3 per cent of the whole. It is necessary to explain, however, that these figures are imperfect in so far as no attempt was made in the earlier years of the period to rectify the error introduced by the practice of declaring exports to Egypt "for orders" and using the ports of that country merely as a distributing point. Since

(*a*) For British India only.
(*b*) In respect of area and outturn, the "year under review" is 1907-08; in respect of Exports and Imports, the "year under review" is 1908-09.

1905 steady progress has been made in the adjustment of these errors by tracing the produce to its true destination.

Some foreign wheat is imported into India every year. In times of shortage it is taken in considerable quantities even by Indian ports from which grain is commonly shipped. In 1908-09 the imports were exceptionally heavy and amounted to 28,948 tons with a value of R 39·58 lakhs (£264,000). Of this Australia furnished 19,697 tons and Asiatic Turkey 8,987 tons. Bombay accounted for 64 per cent of the total and Bengal for 31 per cent.

Exports of **wheat flour** were restricted by the shortage in wheat and the continued high internal prices. In the bumper year of 1904-05 these had amounted to 51,575 tons. In 1907-08 they were 37,219 tons and in 1908-09 they subsided to 30,104 tons with a value of R 52·11 lakhs (£347,400). The exports go mainly to Aden, Asiatic Turkey, Mauritius, East Africa, the Straits, and Ceylon.

The wheat crop of 1908-09 has an estimated area of 25,836,000 acres and the outturn is computed at 7,580,800 tons. This shows an advance of 1,184,200 tons or 13·5 per cent on the average crop of the five years ending 1906-07. Most of it has been harvested before the time of writing this Review and a considerable part of it has been shipped. Untimely rain in April damaged a quantity of the wheat on the threshing floor in those parts of India where the crop is reaped early; but in the northern wheat regions of the Panjab, where the crop was still standing or in stocks, the damage is reported to have been trifling. There has, however, been considerable damage to certain other food crops, and this might have intensified the internal demand for wheat to a point prohibitive of exportation. But an extraordinary rise in wheat prices throughout the world has taken place, mainly as a consequence of a marked shortage of supplies. This has enabled shippers to secure large quantities; and there appears to be every likelihood of a large trade profitable to the country and tending to confirm exchange.

**Food grains other than rice and wheat** shared the decline that marked the trade in these principal cereals. The contraction was one of 66·6 per cent or 163,636 tons, the total quantity being 81,881 tons, against 245,517 tons in 1907-08, and the value R81·72 lakhs (£545,000) against R 202·41 lakhs (£1,349,000). **Barley** alone in 1907-08 made a total of 81,887 tons, almost exactly the same as the aggregate of the whole group in the year under review; but in the latter year it fell by 88·5 per cent to a total of 9,423 tons. **Gram,** which in 1907-08 amounted to 42,693 tons, fell away by 82 per cent to 7,578 tons. **Jawar and bajra** dropped by 59 per cent from 56,300 tons to 22,974 tons; while **pulse,** which in 1907-08 was the largest item in the group with a total of 59,521 tons, retained that place at 36,777 tons with a contraction of only 38·2 per cent. **Other sorts** remained unchanged at 5,130 tons.

**Provisions**—The value of the exports of provisions is small, being only about R76·11 lakhs (£507,400) as compared with R75·46 lakhs (£503,000) in 1907-08. But it is well maintained and shows indeed a minute advance. The principal article is **ghi** or clarified butter, which has fallen back to R 24·24 lakhs (£161,600) from the R26·74 lakhs (£178,000), to which it had advanced in 1907-08. **Fish,** on the other hand, continued its upward movement, though at a diminished rate, and recorded a total of R18·74 lakhs (£125,000) as against R18·33 lakhs (£122,000) in 1907-08.

**Spices**—Exports of spices improved from R52·7 lakhs (£351,000) to R58·53 lakhs (£390,000), but that figure was the lowest that had been recorded in ten years. The R5·83 lakhs (£39,000) so gained represents an increase of 11 per cent. **Pepper,** with a sum of R22·5 lakhs (£150,000), continues to be the most important item; but its total value declined by R1·88 lakhs (£12,500) or 7·7 per cent, while its specific value fell by 19·4 per cent. **Chillies,** with a total value of R17·06 lakhs (£114,000), recorded an advance of R3·39 lakhs (£22,600) or 24·8 per cent in spite of a drop of nearly 2 per cent in the total quantity. **Ginger**, at R14·51 lakhs (£97,000), showed an improvement of R3·41 lakhs (£22,700) in spite of a minute fall in its specific value.

**Tea** represents 6·9 per cent of the total value of Indian merchandise exported and 31·9 per cent of the exports of articles of food and drink.

The year under review has on the whole been satisfactory to shippers and to home dealers. Probably its most noticeable feature was the decline in the prices of low grade teas without deflection in higher grades, and the generally stronger tendency in all departments during the winter and spring The drop in the price of low grades would appear to have been a reaction from the inflated values which had drawn large quantities of inferior descriptions from China and elsewhere into the Western markets; but it restored the Indian predominance in this branch of the trade. It will be seen that India's production in 1908 was less than in the previous year by some 1¼ million lbs; and against this are to be recorded considerable increases in the shipments from Ceylon and Java. The exports from Ceylon in 1908 were 179,398,300 lbs against 179,844,800 lbs in 1907. Those from Java went from 28,286,500 lbs to 36,579,500 lbs. Of these quantities, the shipments to the United Kingdom were as follows: From Ceylon 109,297,400 lbs against 111,485,800 lbs in the previous year: From Java 12,629,117 lbs against 9,167,312 in 1907. It becomes evident that Java, besides being the largest shipper of cane sugar in the world and the absolute arbiter in the quinine trade, is becoming a competitor in tea; and testimony is borne to the skill and care with which the products are prepared for the markets. The absence of stalks in Java teas has occasioned comment and comparison not favourable to some Indian consignments China, although a less active shipper than in 1907, was helped by the decline in the value of the tael.

The **area and production** of tea in India since 1904 have been as follows:—

| | Area acres | Production lbs |
|---|---|---|
| 1904 | 524,472 | 221,565,631 |
| 1905 | 528,004 | 221,712,407 |
| 1906 | 532,208 | 241,403,510 |
| 1907 | 538,818 | 248,020,397 |
| 1908 | 548,127 | 247,477,324 |

Of the 548,127 acres in 1908, 433,290 acres or 79 per cent were situated in Eastern Bengal and Assam which, with Bengal proper, represented 89 per cent of the whole, the balance being divided between Northern India with 17,479 acres, Southern India with 41,729 acres, and Burma with 1,724 acres.

The increase in total area since 1903—that is to say, in a period of 5 years—has amounted to 4·1 per cent, while the growth in estimated production is one of 18·4 per cent. It is, however, impossible to check the estimates of production satisfactorily because of the unascertainable nature of the internal consumption, which is believed to exceed seven million pounds.

The **joint-stock capital** engaged in the industry amounts to £15,728,306.

| | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|
| Companies registered in India . . | 3,36,44,146 | = 2,242,943 |
| „ „ „ London . . | ... | 13,485,363 |

This gives an average capital of £27 per acre as the mean of the last three years; but it takes no account of the large but unknown quantity of private capital.

The value per ₹100 of joint-stock capital, as calculated on the prices of the **shares** of 68 companies quoted in the Calcutta market, was ₹106 in March 1908 and ₹100 in March 1909.

The **labour** employed is returned as 509,488 permanent and 74,719 temporary, making a total of 584,207 hands or 1·07 hands per acre.

The following figures show the quantity and value of tea exported from India in the last five years:

| | Quantity lbs | Value ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 . . . . | 211,887,158 | 8,46,54,867 | = 5,643,658 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 214,223,788 | 8,84,76,037 | 5,898,402 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 233,653,637 | 9,85,77,642 | 6,571,843 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 227,021,657 | 10,30,03,486 | 6,866,899 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 233,961,538 | 10,39,37,124 | 6,929,142 |

The figures for 1908-09 establish a record both in quantity and total value, although the specific value declined by 2·2 per cent. The increase is 6·94 million pounds or 3 per cent in quantity and ₹9·34 lakhs (£62,300) or about 1 per cent in total value.

The quantities of tea exported to the principal countries have been as follows **in thousands of pounds.** The proportion in which they respectively participated is indicated by percentages:

| | 1906-07 | Percentage | 1907-08 | Percentage | 1908-09 | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . | 176,170 | 75·4 | 169,325 | 74·6 | 177,259 | 75·8 |
| Russia . . . . | 13,761 | 5·9 | 15,407 | 6·8 | 18,552 | 7·9 |
| Australia . . . | 9,499 | 4·1 | 10,977 | 4·8 | 8,998 | 3·9 |
| Canada . . . . | 14,515 | 6·2 | 4,844 | 2·1 | 7,028 | 3 |
| China . . . . | 4,820 | 2·1 | 7,502 | 3·3 | 6,770 | 2·9 |
| Ceylon . . . . | 4,818 | 2·1 | 8,881 | 3·9 | 4,286 | 1·8 |
| Turkey in Asia . . | 3,101 | 1·3 | 3,504 | 1·5 | 3,293 | 1·4 |
| United States . . . | 1,739 | ·7 | 2,086 | ·9 | 2,139 | ·9 |
| Persia . . . . | 929 | ·4 | 1,578 | ·7 | 906 | ·4 |
| Other countries . . | 4,302 | 1·8 | 2,919 | 1·3 | 4,731 | 2 |

The **United Kingdom** took 7,934,000 lbs or 4·7 per cent more than in 1907-08; so that she more than kept pace with the general advance. This is the more satisfactory as prevalence of direct shipment tends generally to diminish such distribution trade as forms a large part of England's business in tea. It is impossible to analyse here the distribution of this tea from the United Kingdom, and it is known that, owing to the use of optional Bills of Lading for shipments to London, the figures above do not in all cases show the actual destination of goods. An investigation conducted in 1907 did, however, show that over seventeen years the net discrepancy between Indian returns of exports to the United Kingdom and British returns of imports from India was considerably less than 1 per cent. The consumption in the United Kingdom in 1908 is

estimated at 275,415,000 lbs or 6·2 lbs per head of the population. India contributed 57 per cent of this total.

**Russia** appears now to have definitely taken second place as a purchaser of Indian teas; and her total rose by 3,145,000 lbs or 20·4 per cent. The Russian development is one of the features of the year. The recovery in shipments to **Canada** does not restore her to the position formerly held; but it may be noted on the other hand that the falling off in consignments to **Australia** really represents a reversion to normal figures. The direct shipments to the **United States** are of course far from representing the total consumption of Indian teas in that territory.

The following statement shows in annas (or pence) and decimals thereof the average prices per lb of the three descriptions of tea most largely sold atpublic auction in Calcutta in the last five years :

| | Broken Pekoe | Pekoe | Pekoe Souchong, Souchong, Pekoe Fannings and Congou |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 . . . . | 5·83 | 5·33 | 4·5 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 6·25 | 5·17 | 4·17 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 6·67 | 5·58 | 4·58 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 7·17 | 6·83 | 6·17 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 6·5 | 6 | 5·17 |

The average price obtained in last season was about 6 annas (or pence) against $6\frac{11}{12}$ annas (or pence)in 1907-08.

There was some expectation that the import duty on tea in the United Kingdom would be raised in May 1909, and this anticipation is believed to have swelled by some 5,000,000 lbs the heavy clearances that took place in April. The duty has not been increased.

## METALS AND MANUFACTURES

On the average of the last three years, the exports of Indian Metals and Manufactures thereof have represented only 0·6 per cent of the total exports of Indian merchandise.

In the year under review they represented only 0·58 per cent in spite of the heavy reduction in exports of other goods. The **quantity** of Indian metals contracted from 11,337,384 cwts to 9,000,997 cwts (say 450,050 tons) and the value from R105·68 lakhs (£704,500) to R81·84 lakhs (£545,600). The shrinkage of 21 per cent in quantity was therefore accompanied by one of 23 per cent in total value. But the values of the several descriptions vary so widely that these figures have little meaning, more particularly as the declared values placed upon free exports are not always accurate. For example, manganese ore, which this year represents 88·8 per cent of the Indian metals exported as against 81·3 per cent in 1907-08, has a declared value of only 13·3 annas (or pence) per cwt, while copper and brass (wrought) which represent only 4·2 per cent under this head had an average value of R84-10-6 (£5 12*s*. 10½*d*.) per cwt.

**Manganese ore** is by far the most important item in this class. The dullness of business in the iron and steel industries brought about not only a marked drop in the spot price of manganese, but a reaction in the Indian exports which had shown continuous progress for a number of years. The quantity

receded from 548,420 tons to 438,014 tons and the value from ₹85·89 lakhs (£572,600) to ₹72·64 lakhs (£484,300). The decline was therefore 20·1 per cent in quantity and 15·4 per cent in value. Of the total, the United Kingdom took 151,274 tons or 34·5 per cent, while the United States took 115,730 tons or 26·4 per cent. Belgium reduced its purchases to 99,344 tons, and France came fourth with a demand for 53,652 tons. The value of "other sorts" exported was ₹5·78 lakhs (£38,500) as against ₹13·75 lakhs (£91,700) in the previous year. This comprises **pig iron** ₹1,49,811 (£9,990), **chromite** ₹1,41,519 (£9,430), **wrought iron** ₹1,21,161 (£8,080), **old iron** ₹85,520 (£5,700), **tin** ₹41,411 (£2,760), and **lead** ₹25,638 (£1,700).

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, NARCOTICS, AND DYES

**Saltpetre,** together with Borax, practically represents the exports of chemicals from India. The trade continues to grow, and the exports amounted to 400,271 cwts with a value of ₹45·35 lakhs (£302,300), as against 363,954 cwts with a value of ₹41·84 lakhs (£279,000) in 1907-08. The quantitative expansion of 10 per cent in conjunction with an increase of 8·4 per cent in the total value marks a fall of 1·5 per cent in average value per unit. It may be mentioned here that the price of Nitrate of Soda in London dropped by 11 per cent in 1908.

**Borax,** which in London held good at £16 per ton in 1908, was exported to the extent of only 2,741 cwts with a value of ₹52,468 (£3,498), as against 5,247 cwts and ₹1·08 lakhs (£7,200) in the previous year.

The **opium** trade has continued to suffer from the disturbance and uncertainty that attend a state of transition. The International Opium Commission, which met at Shanghai, concluded its labours on the 25th of February last, and the terms of the resolutions adopted will be found in the *Times* of the 26th February. The limit as regards exports of Malwa opium had been fixed at 15,100 chests for 1908 and 13,600 chests for 1909. The limit was reached as early as August, and holders thereupon pushed opium forward into the Government warehouses in Bombay and paid the duty in advance in order to secure priority for shipment in 1909. At the end of March 1909 the limit for this year was already practically attained; but the duty-paid opium is left in the warehouses for shipment in 1910. The limit for 1910 is 12,100 chests.

The continuous decline in the exports of Malwa opium to China is shown by the following figures:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Average | 1885 to 1889 | 35,035 chests |
| „ | 1890 to 1894 | 28,907 „ |
| „ | 1895 to 1899 | 22,590 „ |
| „ | 1900 to 1904 | 21,108 „ |
| 1905 | | 15,043 „ |
| 1906 | | 12,991 „ |
| 1907 | | 14,063 „ |
| 1908 | | 15,100 „ |

The area under poppy in the Bihar and Benares Agencies has been further reduced from 505,956 to 392,419 acres. The number of chests of Bengal opium offered for sale in 1908 was 46,800 as compared with 50,400 in 1907 and with 10,800 for the first three months of 1909.

The following statement shows the quantities of opium exported from Bengal and Bombay respectively in each of the last five years, together with the total value **in thousands** and the average prices :

| | Exports | | | | | *Average price per chest* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal chests | Bombay chests | Total chests | Value ₹ | £ | Bengal ₹ | Bengal £ | Bombay ₹ | Bombay £ |
| 1904-05 . | 47,855 | 19,006 | 66,861 | 10,62,34 = | 7,082 | 1,585 = | 106 | 1,599 = | 107 |
| 1905-06 . | 48,833 | 14,103 | 62,936 | 9,47,18 | 6,315 | 1,438 | 96 | 1,736 | 116 |
| 1906-07 . | 53,588 | 12,686 | 66,274 | 9,30,79 | 6,205 | 1,381 | 92 | 1,501 | 100 |
| 1907-08 . | 47,440 | 16,320 | 63,760 | 8,67,25 | 5,782 | 1,347 | 90 | 1,399 | 93 |
| 1908-09 . | 44,970 | 21,987 | 66,957 | 9,34.92 | 6,233 | 1,400 | 93 | 1,388 | 92 |

On the average of the five years ended 1907-08, Bengal shipped 73 per cent of the total. In the year under review her share fell to 67 per cent. This was due in part to the actual decline of 2,470 chests in her shipments but mainly to an increase on Bombay's side of 5,667 chests. Bengal's decline is one of 5·2 per cent and Bombay's increase is 34·7 per cent; but whereas the average value per unit increased by 3·9 per cent in Bengal, it declined by 8 per cent in Bombay. The net increase in the total quantity shipped is 3,197 chests or 5 per cent, while the concomitant rise of ₹67·67 lakhs (£451,000) represents 7·8 per cent on the previous year's value and marks an enhancement of nearly 2·7 per cent in the average value. Exports to Hongkong grew by 2,321 chests or 6·7 per cent to 36,964 chests, while those to the Straits Settlements declined by 2,021 chests or 15·3 per cent to 11,174 chests. Shipments to China exclusive of Hongkong and Macáo increased by 2,688 chests, or 20·5 per cent, to 15,794 chests.

**Tobacco**—The trade in Indian tobacco continues to feel severely the competition of "interests" more highly organised and equipped. Progress is, however, being made in the adoption of improved methods of cultivation and preparation, while the increase in the consumption of Indian leaf in cigarette factories in this country renders the trade slightly less dependent on foreign buyers. The area under tobacco in British India and Native States is believed to exceed 1,000,000 acres.

The following are the figures of the export trade for the last three years:

| | Unmanufactured | | | Manufactured | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | cwts | ₹ | £ | cwts | ₹ | £ |
| 1906-07 . . . | 187,007 | 20,49,623= | 136,642 | 12,280 | 10,46,355= | 69,757 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 176,110 | 18,07,563 | 120,504 | 12,807 | 11,24,228 | 74,949 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 93.414 | 11,78,727 | 78,582 | 13,076 | 11,42 954 | 76,197 |

In **unmanufactured** descriptions, therefore, there was a contraction of 47 per cent in quantity and 34·8 per cent in value, which argues a rise of 22·9 per cent in the specific value. In the **manufactured** classes, there was an advance of about 2 per cent in quantity and of 1·7 per cent in value, the slight fall in average value being negligible. Of this head, 96·3 per cent is represented by cigars; and of these the largest purchasers are the Straits Settlements, the United Kingdom, and Siam. Most of the unmanufactured leaf goes to the Straits, to Aden, and to France, and much of it is of the description consumed in the *hookah* or *narghili*, so that neither in kind nor in value is it strictly comparable with the leaf produced in other countries for manufacturing purposes. The total exports of tobacco of all descriptions amounted to 106,490 cwts in place of 188,917 cwts and to ₹23·21 lakhs (£155,000) in place of ₹29·31 lakhs (£195,400) in 1907-08. The tobacco trade in England and America is feeling the stress of monopolistic domination and is undergoing very considerable

changes including a gradual but continuous rise of prices augmented, so far as England is concerned, by enhanced duty.

**Indigo** usually comes on the market in December; and most of the exports are effected before the end of the statistical year. The crop of 1908 showed a continuation of the contraction in area; but although sowing was restricted by deficiency of moisture, a fairly satisfactory yield was on the whole obtained. The outturn was however estimated at some 29 per cent less than in 1907-08.

This is reflected in the reduced exportation; but in spite of the extended use of *khaki* in army clothing, the year has not been without promise for producers. The superiority of the Java-Natal plant is established; improvements have been made in processes of manufacture; consumers appear to have recognised definitely that in certain classes of work the synthetic article cannot compete; and the constancy of price which the natural product has exhibited during the past two years encourages the belief that these classes of work will furnish an outlet for supplies approximating to present level Indeed, it has been estimated that with a good crop, natural indigo could now be sold at a rate little, if at all, exceeding that which rules for its synthetic rival. The accounts of the next crop are for the most part good both as regards quantity and quality.

The following statement shows the exports of indigo in 1908-09 and the five previous years, together with approximate quotations of average price in London. The total ten years ago was 135,187 cwts with a value of R2 97 crores (£ 1·98 millions); and that was 44·5 per cent below the value for 1895-96.

| | From Calcutta | From Madras ports | From other ports | Total | Value | | Average price per cwt | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | | £ | £ | s. | d. |
| 1903-04 . | 29,858 | 24,414 | 6,138 | 60,410 | 1,07,62,000 | =717,000 | 21 | 4 | 8 |
| 1904-05 . | 30,029 | 11,901 | 7,322 | 49,252 | 83,46,000 | 556,000 | 19 | 12 | 0 |
| 195-06 . | 19,062 | 7,756 | 4,368 | 31,186 | 58,64,000 | 1,000 | 19 | 7 | 4 |
| 1906-07 . | 19,309 | 11,159 | 4,634 | 35,102 | 70,05,000 | 467,000 | 20 | 6 | 0 |
| 1907-08 . | 16,627 | 10,619 | 5,244 | 32,490 | 63,73,000 | 425,000 | 20 | 1 | 4 |
| 1908-09 . | 17,698 | 4,636 | 2,612 | 24,946 | 49,05,000 | 327,000 | 20 | 10 | 8 |

Therefore the declines in quantity and value respectively have been as follows—In ten years, 81·5 per cent in quantity and 83·5 per cent in value; in five years, 58·7 per cent in quantity and 54·4 per cent in value. In the year under review the rate of decline in quantity has been 23·2 per cent and in value 23 per cent.

Prices in Calcutta opened at an average of R145 (£9·13*s.* 4*d.*) per factory maund of 72 lbs, which is equal to £15-0-9 per cwt, and closed at an average of R132-8 (£8 16*s.* 8*d.*) or R12-8 (16*s.* 7*d.*) less than at the beginning. The average price for the season works out to R140 (£9 6*s* 8*d.*) per factory maund.

Exports to the United Kingdom improved by a further 9·9 per cent to 10,209 cwts, but the Continent of Europe reduced its demand from 8,083 to 4,506 cwts. This represents a contraction of 44·2 per cent and leaves a net decline of 2,653 cwts for Europe. Shipments to Egypt, at 3,351 cwts as against 6,424 cwts in 1907-08, were 47·8 per cent less; while Asiatic Turkey took 3,309 cwts in place of 3,235 cwts in the previous year. The demand in Persia, which showed encouraging development in the last two years, has contracted from 2,988 cwts to 1,170 cwts, but this may be accounted for by the state of that country. The shrinkage of the shortlived Japanese demand has been arrested, and she took 804 cwts in place of 343 cwts in 1907-08; while the United States reduced their imports from 1,417 cwts to 1,295 cwts.

**Other Dyeing and Tanning materials**—The following statement shows the exports of the principal articles in this class in the last three years :

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| Myrabolams . | 1,162,219 | 43,97,000 | =293,000 | 1,493,294 | 58,95,000 | =393,000 | 1,466,840 | 57,20,000 | =381,300 |
| Cutch . . | 97,269 | 15,93,000 | 106,000 | 91,690 | 14,48,000 | 96,000 | 62,822 | 9,25,000 | 61,700 |
| Turmeric . . | 62,246 | 7,09,000 | 47,000 | 82,844 | 9,91,000 | 66,000 | 91,416 | 9,60,000 | 64,000 |

Of these, **Myrabolams** is by far the most important. The exports of this article declined by 1·8 per cent in quantity and by 3 per cent in value, with a drop of 1·3 per cent in specific value as declared. In recent years a practice has sprung up of separating the seeds from the myrabolam proper, and there has come into existence a certain trade in these seeds or kernels which are rich in oil. **Cutch**, after considerable advances in the last two years, fell away by 31·5 per cent in quantity and 36·1 per cent in value, while the exports of **Turmeric** maintained their recent progress by a further increase of 10·3 per cent in quantity. This however was accompanied by a drop in price, bringing its total value to a point 3·2 per cent lower than in 1907-08.

## OILS

**Oils** form only ·63 per cent of the total value of exports of merchandise from India. They comprise animal, essential, mineral, and vegetable oils. For the second year in succession, a substantial increase has taken place in the value, which now reaches ₹94·44 lakhs (£629,600) in place of ₹85·82 lakhs £572,000) in 1907-08. The rise is one of ₹8·62 lakhs (£57,500) or 10 per cent. **Vegetable oils** form by far the most important class and usually represent about 64 per cent of the whole. Their value increased from ₹50·83 lakhs (£338,900) to ₹63·71 lakhs (£424,700) or by 25·3 per cent. **Cocoanut oil** makes the largest figure, with a total of ₹40·32 lakhs (£268,800) in place of ₹17·17 lakhs (£114,500) in 1907-08. This increase of 134·8 per cent is exceptional, but the year was a favourable one in home markets with prices hardening from £27 to £30 10*s*. **Castor oil,** which for two years had stood above ₹22·2 lakhs (£148,000), dropped by 33·7 per cent to ₹14·84 lakhs (£99,000); while the total of **linseed, mustard,** and **sesamum** oils fell from ₹9·44 lakhs (£63,000) to ₹6·96 lakhs (£46,400). The article of next importance in this class is **Paraffin wax,** which usually represents about 22 per cent of the total and now stands at 92,846 cwts with a value of ₹21·99 lakhs (£146,600) in place of 87,564 cwts with a value of ₹19·70 lakhs (£131,300) in 1907-08. Shipments of paraffin **candles,** on the other hand, fell off by 10·7 per cent to 4,897,575 lbs with a value of ₹13·65 lakhs (£91,000). **Essential oils,** which usually figure at about 12 per cent of the whole, have fallen from ₹8·85 lakhs (£59,000) to ₹6·5 lakhs (£43,300). **Mineral oil** has in Indian commerce such an importance as is not indicated by its export statistics These have now fallen to the small total of 1,836,557 gallons with a value of ₹1·83 lakhs (£12,200). This marks a heavy reduction of the figures of the previous year, which were 5,652,850 gallons and ₹5·37 lakhs (£35,800). But figures of internal production and consumption, which are given more appropriately in the article relating to imports of petroleum, will show that this contraction of exports is far from being attributable to any deterioration in the kerosene trade as a whole.

## RAW MATERIALS

**Coal**—On an average of the three years ending 1907-08 coal has represented ·9 per cent of the exports of raw materials and ·4 per cent of the exports of Indian merchandise. In 1908-09 these percentages declined to ·75 per cent and ·34 per cent respectively.

The annual production of Indian coal in the five years ending 1885 averaged 1,227,197 tons. In the quinquennium ending 1895 it averaged 2,758,640 tons; and in that ending 1905 it averaged 7,626,592 tons. In 1908 the production amounted to 12,737,770 tons as against 11,147,339 tons in 1907.

In twenty years the average exports had grown from 16,524 to 576,278 tons per annum. In 1906-07 they attained the figure of 935,350 tons, but in the last two years they have fallen, first to 727,881 tons with a value of ₹58·96 lakhs (£393,000), and now to 571,582 tons with a value of ₹50 51 lakhs (£337,000). The decline is therefore one of 21·5 per cent in quantity and 14·3 per cent in value, the average declared value per ton being ₹8-13-5. (11*s.* 9½*d*).

Among the external buyers of Indian coal, Ceylon retains the first place, but with a diminished quantity of 354,355 tons in place of 384,615 tons in the previous year. The contraction in the shipments to the Straits Settlements continues, and is not surprising in view of certain facts recorded in the article relating to imported coal. The figure of 107,615 tons in place of 198,688 tons in 1907-08 shows a drop of nearly 46 per cent. Sumatra also reduced her demand from 101,599 to 85,535 tons, while Aden with 11,224 tons in place of 13,835 and East Africa with 2, 508 tons in place of 6,437 tons in the previous year bear testimony to the competition of Natal and other coals as well as reduction in consumption. The total exports of coke amounted to only 1,656 tons in place of 5,180 tons in 1907-08, and most of this went to the Straits Settlements.

Calcutta was the port of shipment for all the exports except 222 tons from Bombay and 50 tons from Sind. Against the decline of 156,300 tons in exports abroad, is to be recorded an increase of 250,200 tons in the shipments from Calcutta to other Indian ports. The total in the latter case was 2,455,724 in place of 2,205,532 tons in 1907·08, which marks an advance 11·3 per cent. Of the total, Bombay took 1,013,611 tons or 41·3 per cent in place of 964,977 tons in the previous year. Shipment of bunker coal from Calcutta for use of steamers were slightly less at 1,000,443 tons.

The prices of first class Jherria Bengal coal per ton in wagon have been as follows in the last three years:

| | Highest | | | | | Lowest | | | | | Average | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | *a.* | *p.* | *s.* | *d.* | ₹ | *a.* | *p.* | *s.* | *d.* | ₹ | *a.* | *p.* | *s.* | *d.* |
| 1906-07 | 6 | 0 | 0 | (8 | 0) | 3 | 8 | 0 | (4 | 8) | 4 | 5 | 5 | (5 | $9\frac{5}{12}$) |
| 1907-08 | 6 | 8 | 0 | (8 | 8) | 5 | 0 | 0 | (6 | 8) | 6 | 0 | 0 | (8 | 0) |
| 1908-09 | 8 | 8 | 0 | (11 | 4) | 4 | 0 | 0 | (5 | 4) | 5 | 7 | 8 | (7 | $3\frac{3}{4}$) |

**Cotton**—On the average of the three years ending 1907-08 raw cotton represented 30·7 per cent of the total value of Indian raw materials exported. In 1908-09 the proportion fell to 29·4 per cent.

The crop which mainly furnished the exports under review was that of 1907-08. It was estimated at 21·63 million acres as compared with 22·49 millions in 1906-07, and the official estimate of outturn was 3,122,000 bales of 400 lbs (11,150,000 cwts) as against 4,932,700 bales (17,166,786 cwts) in the previous year. Serious doubt is thrown upon that estimate by comparison of it with the sum of net exports and estimated internal consumption on a basis

arrived at in agreement with the Bombay Cotton Trade Association, Ltd., and while it is right to say that the factor of extra-factory consumption involved in that calculation is large and conjectural, there is no real doubt that the crop was substantially underestimated by some Provinces. The crop of 1908-09 was reported last December at 19·74 million acres with a yield of 3,643,000 bales or 13,011,714 cwts. The average yield per acre would appear to be only 74 lbs per acre, and this is about one-third of the average yield sometimes obtained in America.

The American crop in the last three years has been estimated as follows by the Census Bureau (in cwts) :

| 1906 | 1907 | 1908 |
|---|---|---|
| 60,694,187 | 50,783,308 | 60,549,437 |

The Egyptian crop in 1908 is not believed to have exceeded 6,250,000 cantars (5,524,553 cwts) as compared with some 7,234,000 cantars (6,394,340 cwts) in 1907.

The following are the prices of middling upland cotton at Liverpool in the last three years stated in pennies and decimals of a penny per lb :

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|
| In Liverpool— | | | |
| Opening | 6·1 | 5·9 | 5·77 |
| Highest | 6·59 | 7·57 | 6·7 |
| Lowest | 5·29 | 5·66 | 4·8 |
| Closing | 5·97 | 5·69 | 5·05 |
| Average | 5·95 | 6·62 | 5·49 |

The Liverpool Cotton Trade Association has this year resolved that quotations shall in future be given in decimals instead of sixteenths of a penny.

It will be noticed that the range of price has been wide in the past year, labour disputes having combined with other influences to induce marked fluctuation.

The price of good Broach at Bombay in the last three years was as follows in annas and decimals of an anna per lb :

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|
| At Bombay— | | | |
| Opening | 5·31 | 5·14 | 5·33 |
| Highest | 5·37 | 5·59 | 5·33 |
| Lowest | 4·8 | 5·04 | 4·41 |
| Closing | 5·14 | 5·14 | 4·94 |
| Average | 5·06 | 5·37 | 4·68 |

The market opened at its highest and touched the lowest point in middle December. In Liverpool Indian descriptions fluctuated within $1\frac{1}{8}d$, fine Broach touching $5\frac{13}{16}d$ and closing at $4\frac{11}{16}d$ at the end of the calendar year.

The textile industry throughout the world has been depressed and calculations made upon the collated returns of various groups of weaving mills in England show average dividends of $11\frac{3}{4}$, $14\frac{1}{2}$, and 15·18 per cent as compared with about double these figures in 1907. The profit on the share and loan capital of a number of spinning mills in Lancashire has been estimated at 11·2 per cent in 1908 as against 24·6 per cent in 1907. The Liverpool Cotton Association estimates the British consumption in 1908 at 3,379,000 bales against 4,055,000 bales in 1907 and 3,892,000 bales in 1906. The stock at the end of the year was about 947,000 bales, of which only 13,000 bales were Indian. Brazilian, Peruvian, and even African staples have made considerable progress in

the home markets during 1908. Up to the time of writing this review, it cannot be said that conditions at home give any assurance of increased production till well on in the year. In India, on the other hand, the mill consumption increased by about 197,000 cwts or by 2·8 per cent from 6,781,800 cwts to 6,978,800 cwts. This figure allows for wastage and is equivalent to 1,954,100 bales of 400 lbs.

The following figures give a summary of the export trade in the last five years, **the unit being 1,000 :**

| | Exports | | | Average declared value per cwt | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | ₹ | a. | £ | s. | d. |
| 1904-05 | 5,658 | 17,43,47 | =11,623 | 30 | 13 | =2 | 1 | 1 |
| 1905-06 | 7,399 | 21,34,15 | 14,228 | 28 | 13½ | 1 | 18 | 5½ |
| 1906-07 | 7,401 | 21,97,85 | 14,652 | 19 | 11½ | 1 | 19 | 7½ |
| 1907-08 | 8,562 | 25,70,25 | 17,135 | 30 | 0½ | 2 | 0 | 0½ |
| 1908-09 | 6,798 | 19,76,85 | 13,179 | 29 | 1¼ | 1 | 18 | 9¼ |

It will be seen therefore that there was a decline of 20·6 per cent in quantity and 23·1 per cent in value, the ostensible decline in specific value being 3·2 per cent.

The statement below shows the destinations of the cotton exported during the same period, the **unit** as before being **1,000 :**

| | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts |
| Japan | 1,951 | 2,231 | 1,729 | 2,245 | 2,223 |
| Germany | 1,025 | 1,384 | 1,663 | 1,880 | 1,137 |
| Belgium | 668 | 1,128 | 1,102 | 1,254 | 956 |
| Italy | 627 | 809 | 874 | 1,060 | 851 |
| France | 235 | 482 | 560 | 625 | 456 |
| United Kingdom | 346 | 373 | 452 | 453 | 383 |
| Austria-Hungary | 456 | 615 | 619 | 622 | 380 |
| China | 171 | 185 | 166 | 135 | 216 |
| Spain | 127 | 140 | 139 | 157 | 107 |

The shipments to Japan therefore fell by 22,000 cwts or 1 per cent, whereas Germany reduced her demand by no less than 743,000 cwts or 39·5 per cent. The United Kingdom took some 70,000 cwts less than in 1907-08 and indeed it is understood that the consumption of Indian staples in the United Kingdom in 1908 was only about 173,000 bales as compared with 142,000 bales of Peruvian, African, etc. China was the only country that increased her purchases of Indian cotton; and in so far as this is an indication that her textile industry is dependent on foreign supplies of material, this may be a subject of congratulation.

**Hides and skins** represent 5·6 per cent of the entire exports of Indian produce. The earlier part of the year 1908 was marked by a heavy fall in the value of hides, and not till the summer did a reaction set in. The imports of dry hides into the United Kingdom from all sources in 1908 amounted to only 357,375 cwts with a value of £1,215,099, against 406,314 cwts in 1907 with a value of £1,484,570; and, though the receipt of wet hides were heavier, the aggregate value of the two classes was about £50,000 less than in the previous year. The value of the imports into America is estimated at £12·01 millions as against £16·18 millions in 1907. These figures give some indication of the contraction in demand. The exports of **raw hides** from India, however, rose by 12·6 per cent

in quantity and 10·8 per cent in value, there being a fall of 1·6 per cent in the average value per cwt, which is recorded at R62-8-9 (£4-3-4¾). These fact should be read in conjunction with the notes about tanned hides and skins. The average weight of a raw hide was 8·9 lbs in place of 9·2 lbs in 1907-08. Exports of **raw skins** increased by 52·7 per cent in quantity and 30 per cent in value, there being a fall of about 14·8 per cent in average value per cwt. There was an increase of 10·4 per cent in the average weight in this class. The number of **raw hides and skins together** amounted to 33·5 millions in place of 25·5 millions in 1907-08, and the total value to R833·92 lakhs (£5,559,500) in place of R705·18 lakhs (£4,701,000). Of the total weight, Calcutta shipped 79 per cent. The United States took 37·8 per cent of the total with a value of R324·58 lakhs (£2,164,000), which marks an advance. Germany also increased her demand and came second with R199·63 lakhs (£1,331,000). Italy took R85·36 lakhs (£569,000); Austria-Hungary R70·58 lakhs (£470,500); Spain R47·3 lakhs (£315,000); France R25·98 lakhs (£173,000); and the United Kingdom R45·69 lakhs (£304,600), which marks a decline of 7·2 per cent. In skins also the United States hold the first place, since they take four-fifths of the total, while the United Kingdom takes only about 7 per cent.

The following statement of the exports for the last six years enables the reader to gauge the growth of the trade, **the unit being 1,000:**

| | Hides | | | | Skins | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | No | R | £ | Cwt | No | R | £ |
| 1903-04 . | 671= | 8,261 | 3,16,75= | 2,112 | 265= | 19,634 | 2,66,87= | 1,779 |
| 1904-05 . | 709 | 8,722 | 3,70,87 | 2,472 | 367 | 22,889 | 3,34,54 | 2,230 |
| 1905-06 . | 944 | 11,532 | 5,23,38 | 3,489 | 539 | 31 521 | 4,86,49 | 3,243 |
| 1906-07 . | 1,091 | 12,917 | 6,40,90 | 4,273 | 464 | 26,866 | 4,48,49 | 2,990 |
| 1907-08 . | 680 | 8,278 | 4,31,98 | 2,880 | 310 | 17.202 | 2,73,20 | 1,821 |
| 1908-09 . | 765 | 9,652 | 4,78,53 | 3,190 | 474 | 23,809 | 3,55,38 | 2,369 |

The price of hides in India has tended upwards during the year, with the exception of the usual droop in the rains when the material holds a larger proportion of moisture. Buffalo was quoted at R6-8 (8*s.* 8*d.*) per 20 lbs in April rose gradually to R8 (10*s.* 8*d.*) which was reached in December and January, and then declined to R7 (9*s.* 4*d.*) in March. The same course was followed by cow hides, which opened at R22 (£1. 9*s.* 4*d.*) and closed at the same figure after touching R24 (£1. 12*s.*) in December. The agitation in the United States for abolition or reduction of the import duty on hides is being prosecuted energetically in connection with the revision of the tariff, but the movement is apparently opposed by the packing interest which has engaged largely in tanning.

**Jute** has in recent years supplanted cotton as the most important single article of exportation. It retains this place and represents 29·6 per cent of the total value of Indian raw produce exported.

The year under review has been one of extraordinary depression. It began under the shadow of the American financial collapse, and it is recognised that the markets of the world at that time carried considerable unassimilated stocks of jute and its products from the previous bumper crop. The effect has been that neither a passing stir of activity in the market, the reports of bad weather at sowing time, nor yet the successive announcements of reduced crop estimates availed to move prices. The world's demand for jute is estimated variously at from 8,000,000 to 8,200,000 bales per annum; and as India still

retains a virtual monopoly of the article, it is well to show the estimates of area, outturn, consumption, and surplus in the last five years :

| | Area Acres | Outturn Cwts | Estimated Indian consumption Cwts | Estimated exportable surplus Cwts |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 | 2,850,000 | 26,429,000 | 12,405,000 | 14,024,000 |
| 1905-06 | 3,128,000 | 29,421,000 | 14,427,000 | 14,994,000 |
| 1906-07 | 3,483,000 | 32,598,000 | 12,256,000 | 20,342,000 |
| 1907-08 | 3,974,000 | 35,059,000 | 13,439,000 | 21,620,000 |
| 1908-09 | 2,841,000 | 22,536,000 | 14,625,000 | 7,911,000 |

As illustrating the effect of weather on the outturn of the jute crop, it may be pointed out that, if the average length of jute be taken as 6 feet or 72 inches, one inch less or more on the length of the staple would—on a crop of, say, 33,000,000 cwts—make a difference of about 458,000 cwts.

As regards the estimate of internal consumption, reference should be made to the industrial statistics shown in the chapter on exports of jute manufactures.

Jute differs from certain other Indian crops in that—under normal conditions of trade—the mass of the produce is exported or absorbed in the statistical year in which it is grown. The growth of the export trade is shown in the following statement, the **unit being 1,000:**

| | Quantity Cwts | Centesimal Variations | Value ₹ | Value £ | Average value per cwt ₹ | Average value per cwt s. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 | 12,875 | — 6·2 | 11,96,56 | = 7,977 | 9·29 | = 12·4 |
| 1905-06 | 14,480 | + 12·5 | 17,12,57 | 11,417 | 11·83 | 15·8 |
| 1906-07 | 15,970 | + 10·3 | 26,83,87 | 17,892 | 16·81 | 22·4 |
| 1907-08 | 14,192 | — 11·1 | 17,97,28 | 11,982 | 12·66 | 16·8 |
| 1908-09 | 17,880 | + 26 | 19,83,45 | 13,223 | 11·09 | 14·8 |

It will be seen therefore that, in spite of the depression (or perhaps because of its effect on the local mills) the quantity exported was greater by 3,688,000 cwts (or 26 per cent) than in the year of 1907-08, while the total value increased by ₹186·17 lakhs (£1,241,000), the specific value, however, being less by 12·4 per cent. Compared with the record year of 1906-07 the quantity rose by 1,909,425 cwts or 12 per cent, while the value declined by ₹7 crores (£4,666,700) or 26·1 per cent, the fall in specific value in this case being 34 per cent.

The following statement shows the average price in Calcutta of jute (M group) per bale of 400 lbs. in each of the five previous years and in the first week in each month of the year under review :

| | ₹ a. p. | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|
| Average of 1903-04 | 31 12 0 | = 2 2 4 |
| „ „ 1904-05 | 36 8 5 | 2 8 8 |
| „ „ 1905-06 | 44 11 7 | 2 19 8 |
| „ „ 1906-07 | 60 4 4 | 4 0 4 |
| „ „ 1907-08 | 44 12 0 | 2 19 8 |
| Average of the previous 5 years | 43 9 8 | 2 18 2 |

| | ₹ | a. | p. | | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1908—April | 37 | 0 | 0 | = | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| May | 43 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 17 | 4 |
| June | 39 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 12 | 0 |
| July | 39 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 12 | 0 |
| August | 45 | 0 | 0 | | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| September | 45 | 0 | 0 | | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| October | 43 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 17 | 4 |
| November | 38 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 10 | 8 |
| December | 34 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 1909—January | 33 | 8 | 0 | | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| February | 31 | 8 | 0 | | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| March | 37 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| Average of 1908-09 | 38 | 12 | 0 | | 2 | 11 | 8 |

The decrease in the average price is therefore 11·1 per cent.

The United Kingdom took 6,664,862 cwts, or 1,208,283 cwts more than the 5,456,579 cwts in 1907-08, her share being 37·3 per cent of the whole. Germany took 3,690,237 cwts, or 733,215 cwts more than in the previous year. This makes her share 20·6 per cent of the whole, which is much where she stood before. The United States increased their demand by 1,354,605 cwts, bringing the total to 3,336,060 cwts and their share to 18·7 per cent instead of 14 per cent in the earlier year. France, with 1,843,200 cwts or 10·3 per cent of the total, took 96,826 cwts more; while 5·6 per cent went to Austria-Hungary, 3·5 per cent to Italy, and 2·4 per cent to Spain. Calcutta shipped 88·4 per cent of the total as compared with 88·8 per cent in 1907-08; while Chittagong supplied 11·1 per cent in place of 10·5 per cent, and Madras supplied only 0·5 per cent.

**Seeds** represent 17·4 per cent of the entire exports of Indian raw produce. The quantity exported in 1908-09 was 16,243,000 cwts with a value of ₹1,167 81 lakhs (£7,785,000). This falls short of the figures for the previous year by 6,942,000 cwts or 29·9 per cent and by ₹513·7 lakhs (£3,425,000) or 30·5 per cent, there being apparently in the specific value of the group a small decline of ·8 per cent, due probably to the greater preponderance of low-priced descriptions in its constitution. The oilseeds crop in India suffered greatly from the climatic conditions described elsewhere. The figures for the last five years have been as follows, **the unit being 1,000**:

| | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 | 26,874 | 14,41,08 | =9,607 |
| 1905-06 | 17,576 | 10 60,92 | 7,073 |
| 1906-07 | 19,736 | 13,02,17 | 8,681 |
| 1907-08 | 23,185 | 16,81,52 | 11,210 |
| 1908-09 | 16,243 | 11,67,81 | 7,785 |

The quantities and values of the principal descriptions of seeds exported are shown below, **the unit being 1,000**:

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | | Percentage (values) to exports of raw produce |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | wts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | |
| Linseed | 4,379 | 3,25,98 = | 2,173 | 6,198 | 4,78,67 = | 3,191 | 3,210 | 2,55,53= | 1,704 | 3·8 |
| Rape | 3,729 | 2,46,71 | 1,645 | 5,343 | 4,32,56 | 2,884 | 2,766 | 2,36,93 | 1,580 | 3·5 |
| Cotton | 4,388 | 1,29,91 | 866 | 4,250 | 1,31,60 | 877 | 3,683 | 1,31,27 | 875 | 2 |
| Sesamum | 2,741 | 2,53,80 | 1,692 | 1,553 | 1,69,17 | 1,128 | 1,657 | 1,62,61 | 1,084 | 2·4 |
| Groundnut | 1,725 | 1,25,55 | 837 | 1,524 | 1,17,89 | 786 | 1,782 | 1,35,06 | 900 | 2 |
| Castor | 1,505 | 1,14,17 | 761 | 1,994 | 1,51,78 | 1,012 | 1,650 | 1,05,82 | 705 | 1·6 |
| Poppy | 803 | 65,77 | 438 | 1,257 | 1,25,21 | 835 | 790 | 83,01 | 553 | 1·2 |
| | | | | | | | | | TOTAL | 16·5 |

The article "copra" might reasonably be grouped with these, as it is really a material for the extraction of oil. It is discussed under "Fruits," and was exported in 1908-09 to the extent of 395,126 cwts with a value of R52·99 lakhs (£353,000). The oilseeds trade in some of its branches is feeling the competition of the soybean (*Glycine hispida maxim*) shipped from China and Japan; and as this plant is cultivated in India efforts will be made to develop the supply.

Linseed goes chiefly to the United Kingdom (R107·19 lakhs=£715,000), France (R82·49 lakhs=£550,000), and Italy (R41·68 lakhs=£278,000). The largest buyers of Rapeseed are Germany (R61·16 lakhs=£408,000), Belgium (R95·35 lakhs=£636,000), and France (R55·33 lakhs=£369,000). Sesamum goes mainly to France and Austria-Hungary. Poppyseed to France and Belgium, Castor and Cotton seeds to the United Kingdom, and Groundnuts to France.

Of the total exports of oilseeds, Bombay shipped 56 per cent with a value of R618·72 lakhs (£4,125,000), Bengal 18·5 per cent with a value of R246·98 lakhs (£1,647,000), Madras 13·3 per cent or R152·11 lakhs (£1,014,000), and Sind 10·4 per cent or R135·75 lakhs (£905,000). The rate of decline was 26·5 per cent in the case of Bombay, 40·9 per cent in that of Bengal, and 45·2 per cent in that of Sind.

In **Linseed** India no longer holds the dominant position it formerly enjoyed. This is due not only to the accidents that have befallen her crops but to the enormous production in Argentina and Russia. For example, Argentina exported 1,080,000 tons in the calendar year 1908, while India shipped 160,477 tons. It is true that this was exceptionally low; but in the previous year, which was favourable, the quantity was only 309,894 tons. The figures discussed in this Review, however, relate to the statistical year 1908-09; and her exports of linseed in that period show a decline of 48·2 per cent in quantity and 46·6 per cent in value. In spite of the heavy exports from La Plata and Russia, a considerable shortage in the American shipments combined with the strong demand for linseed oil to sustain prices, which in England averaged about 45*s* 3*d*.

**Rapeseed** prices also held fairly good with an average of 56*s*. 8*d* in England; but the Indian exporter suffered not only from the contraction of the crop but from the competition of Japanese seed and oil. The total estimated outturn in India was 990,900 tons as against 688,000 tons from the previous year's crop. The exports, as shown above, fell by 48·2 per cent in quantity and 45·2 per cent in value, there being thus a rise of 5·9 per cent in the specific value.

**Sesamum** is most largely consumed in India when there is a shortage of rapeseed; but the shortage in both crops together with the relative weakness of price makes it difficult to account for the increase in exports except on the supposition that it was drawn from the new crop of 1908-09 or was due to monetary stringency resulting from wide-spread failure of food crops. In any case it will be seen that in this article there was a return to something like normal levels, but that the increase of 6·7 per cent in quantity was accompanied by a fall of 3·6 per cent in total value.

**Cotton-seed** represents 11·2 per cent of the exports of seeds and about 1·9 per cent of the total value of raw Indian produce exported. The trade is of comparatively recent date and has grown with great rapidity. The largest quantity exported in any single year was 4,388,000 cwts in 1906-07 but the

4,250,000 cwts in 1907-08 were little below it. In 1908-09, however, the shortage in the cotton crop itself and in the fodder supply put prices on a high level and restricted exports markedly. That these prices were paid in spite of the existence of a considerable speculative holding of oil in Europe is to be ascribed to the continuous advance made by cotton oil for edible purposes in the Western world, and by undecorticated Indian cottoncake as a cattle feed. The exports from India declined by 13·3 per cent in quantity and by 0·2 per cent in value, this difference marking a rise of 15 per cent in specific value and reflecting, though not very accurately, the rise in European price. In the last two years the United Kingdom has taken about 80 per cent of the whole quantity of Indian cottonseed exported, while Egypt is shown as the destination of some 17 per cent.

Keen interest is being taken in India in the project of establishing factories completely equipped to produce cotton oil and its derivative stearines in the form of substitutes for the *ghi* or clarified butter used by the people.

**Poppyseed** suffers from the competition of cottonseed so far as it is possible for two seeds to compete which require different machinery. The weather conditions, as well as the reduction of area under poppy, further affected the output; and the exports fell by 37 per cent in quantity and 33·7 per cent in value, there being thus a rise of 5·4 per cent in the specific value.

**Castor seed** exports fell by 17·2 per cent in quantity and 30·3 per cent in value. The decline in specific value was thus about 15·8 per cent.

The business in **Groundnuts** has shown a marked revival since the introduction of descriptions that resist disease. Exports have progressed by 16·9 per cent in quantity in the year under review, and the total value has risen by 14·6 per cent. A considerable proportion of the exports of groundnuts from India is shipped from the French port of Pondicherry and so escapes registration in the trade of India. In the last three years, the exports by that route have been as follows:

| | tons | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 | 33,623 | 43,67,000 | =291,100 |
| 1906-07 | 43,954 | 70,13,000 | 467,000 |
| 1907-08 | 36,509 | 58,48,000 | 390,000 |

**Silk**—Just as silk exhibited in a marked manner the rise of prices which was general in 1906 and 1907, so in 1908 it illustrated the reaction. An average, struck on nine standard quotations in Europe at the end of 1907 and a year later, shows a decline of 10·6 per cent. Italian silk dropped about 11 per cent, while some descriptions of Shanghai silk fell as much as 23 per cent, and Canton silk alone recorded a rise which amounted to about 3 per cent. The demoralisation resulting from the general condition of trade was such as to obscure the effects of all minor influences. The exports of **raw silk** declined from 1,943,126 lbs to 1,833,644 lbs and from ₹63·78 lakhs (£425,000) to ₹54·05 lakhs (£360,300). The decrease was thus 5·6 per cent in quantity and 15·3 per cent in value, the fall in specific value being 10·2 per cent. **Reeled mulberry silk**, which in 1907-08 stood at 716,134 lbs with a value ₹54·14 lakhs £361,000), fell away by 21 per cent in quantity and 16·6 per cent in value to 565,463 lbs with a value of ₹45·13 lakhs (£301,000), which shows an improvement of 5·4 per cent in specific value. Bengal consignments of reeled silk (mulberry and wild) fell away from 512,142 lbs and ₹41·34 lakhs (£275,600) to 453,128 lbs and ₹34·06 lakhs (£227,000), the average value per lb being ₹7-8-3 (10*s.*-0¼*d.*). Bombay's trade suddenly receded from the 217,391 lbs and ₹13·3 lakhs (£88,700)

to which it had attained in 1907-08, to 13,851 lbs and R1·27 lakhs (£8,500), this being the lowest figure in the last eight years. The decline in Bengal's case is one of 11·5 per cent in quantity and 17·6 per cent in value, while in that of Bombay it is 93·6 per cent in quantity and 90·4 per cent in value.

The distribution of the exports of reeled silk (mulberry and wild) was as follows:

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | ₹ | £ | lbs | ₹ | £ | lbs | ₹ | £ |
| To United Kingdom | 210,823 | 17,98,072 | =119,871 | 219,712 | 16,69,993 | =111,333 | 189,483 | 15,11,879 | =100,791 |
| ,, France | 487,073 | 3480,297 | 232,020 | 466,849 | 34,11,345 | 227,423 | 365,273 | 28,53,200 | 190,213 |
| ,, United States | 47,610 | 4,24,877 | 28,325 | 29,072 | 2,63,680 | 17,579 | 15,645 | 1,25,160 | 8,344 |
| ,, Other Countries | 32,148 | 2,35,480 | 15,699 | 15,100 | 1,22,192 | 8,146 | 11,165 | 80,859 | 5,391 |

The exports of **waste silk** (chasam)—53·5 per cent of which was wild silk—increased from 1,093,384 lbs to 1,182,691 lbs; but the marked fall in its average value is evidenced by the fact that for the second year in succession an increase in quantity is accompanied by a decline in the total value, which total this year is R7·67 lakhs (£51,000) as against R7·9 lakhs (£53,000) in 1907-08. The average declared value per lb was 10·4 annas (or pence) as compared with 11·5 annas (or pence) in the previous year. The exportation of **cocoons** (of which 51·2 per cent were wild) fell back from 119,009 lbs and R1·21 lakhs (£8,000) to 69,387 lbs and R67,000 (£4,500), which is little more than in 1906-07.

**Teak timber**—The timber trade throughout the world has naturally suffered from the inactivity in the industries employing wood; and although arrivals of teak in London were somewhat short of the demand, prices were weak and offered small inducement. The average price in Calcutta per ton of 50 cub. feet was R122 to R127 (£8-2-8 to £8-9-4) in 1906-07, R123 to R128 (£8-4-0 to £8-10-8) in 1907-08, and only R120 to R125 ((£8 to £8-6-8) in the year under review. Consequently, exports of teak decreased by 31·2 per cent in quantity and 34·5 per cent in value, the total being 27,220 cub. tons and R40·2 lakhs (£268,000) as against 39,539 cub. tons and R61·35 lakhs (£409,000) in 1907-08. Against this contraction of R21·15 lakhs (£141,000) is to be set a small increase of R4·77 lakhs (£32,000) in the internal demand, bringing the total shipments from Burma to India proper to R103·6 lakhs (£690,000) in place of R98·83 lakhs (£659,000) in 1907-08.

**Wool** represents about 3·1 per cent of the value of Indian raw materials exported. The Indian statistical year opened just after the great collapse in wool prices took place. Karachi quotations which had stood at R21 to R23 (£1-8-0 to £1 10-8) in February 1908 were at R17 to R19 (£1-2-8 to £1-5-4) in April, ranged about a rupee lower till December, and then responded tardily to the recovery that had appeared in western markets. There the range of prices was roughly from one penny to two pence per lb lower in 1908 than in 1907; but a much more serious drop was only avoided by concerted measures on the part of dealers. The extent to which an industry is ridden by its machinery is shown by the fact that, in spite of the dullness of trade, the total consumption in Europe and America is estimated as 2,110,000 bales, or not quite 4 per cent less than the 2,195,000 bales of 1907. The **exports** of wool from India increased from 39·8 million lbs to 43·4 million lbs, while the value declined from R210·39 lakhs (£1,402,600) to R208·37 lakhs (£1,389,000). The increase of 9 per cent in quantity was thus accompanied by a decrease of nearly 1 per cent in total value, the average value having therefore fallen by 9·4 per cent. The United Kingdom took almost the same value of wool as in 1907-08: *i. e.*, R204·68 lakhs (£1,364,500) in place of R204·84 lakhs (£1,365,600) in 1907-08. The

exports to the United States followed the trend of their receipts from othe countries and remained at a very low level—R2·69 lakhs (£18,000); while shipments to Japan reached an almost negligible level at R36,000 (£2,400). A good deal of the wool dealt with in these figures comes from beyond the land frontiers of India; but in addition to it there are re-exports of wool received by sea. These in 1908-09 fell from R32·76 lakhs (£218,400) to R27·91 lakhs (£186,000) in value.

**Other principal raw materials** exported have, in the last three years, been as follows:

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Animal bones | 55,45,241 = | 369,683 | 54,45,034 = | 363,002 | 51,78,520 = | 345,235 |
| Bristles and fibre | 17,68,930 | 117,929 | 15,44,535 | 102,969 | 20,52,121 | 136,808 |
| Caoutchouc | 11,18,487 | 74,566 | 5,78,397 | 38,560 | 3,19,039 | 21,269 |
| Hemp | 68,73,395 | 458,226 | 80,63,544 | 537,570 | 59,68,378 | 397,892 |
| Horn and hornmeal | 16,91,532 | 112,769 | 16,49,769 | 109,985 | 15,64,058 | 104,271 |
| Lac (stick and seed) | 12,86,243 | 85,749 | 20,59,704 | 137,314 | 5,88,612 | 39,241 |
| Mica | 38,24,988 | 254,999 | 34,22,420 | 228,161 | 19,02,505 | 126,834 |
| Oil-cake, (fodder and manure) | 75,99,121 | 506,608 | 75,17,393 | 501,160 | 89,64,118 | 597,608 |
| Rice-bran | 49,35,551 | 329,037 | 87,82,418 | 585,495 | 64,01,973 | 426,798 |

Of these, **oilcakes** form the most important item and one that shows not only continued growth but vitality under adverse conditions, some of which may be gathered from the paragraphs relating to exports of oilseeds. The increase recorded is one of R14·47 lakhs (£96,500) or 19·2 per cent. **Rice-bran** drops to second place in order of importance, having receded by R23·8 lakhs (£158,700) or 27·1 per cent from the extraordinarily high total recorded in 1907-08. **Hemp** also shows a very heavy decline of R20·95 lakhs (£139,700) or 26 per cent of its last year's value. The trade in **Bones** fell by R2·66 lakhs (£17,700) or 4·9 per cent, and that in **Horns** by R86,000 (£5,733) or 5·2 per cent. On the other hand, there was a rise of R5·08 lakhs (£34,000) in the value of **Bristles** exported, leaving the figure however, still below that for 1905-06.

The others form a group of articles in which typically modern industries are interested. **Mica,** which had developed greatly under the stimulus of activity in the electrical industry, dropped by R15·2 lakhs (£101,300) or 44·4 per cent on the cessation of that stimulus. Crude **Lac,** being also concerned in the electrical industry and in others equally sensitive to trade depression, collapsed by R14·71 lakhs (£98,000) or 71·4 per cent. The chapter upon exports of manufactured lac may be referred to. The decline in **Caoutchouc,** at the rate of 44·8 per cent, is only a continuance of what has been recorded in the two preceding years; and it brings this article to a point which—if permanent—might be regarded as its statistical eclipteric so far as this paragraph is concerned.

## ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

The statement below shows for the past five years the comparative value of each principal class of manufactures, the **unit in all cases being 1,000**:

| | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Jute goods | 9,93,89 = | 6,626 | 12,44,80 = | 8,299 | 15,71,62 = | 10,477 | 18,29.76 = | 12,198 | 15,73,60 = | 10 491 |
| Cotton yarn and goods | 11,64,32 | 7,762 | 14,42,55 | 9,617 | 12,16,82 | 8,112 | 10,76,66 | 7,178 | 11,53,72 | 7,691 |
| Tanned hides and skins | 2,85,17 | 1,901 | 3,65,84 | 2 439 | 4,45,12 | 2,967 | 3.89.97 | 2,600 | 4,12,85 | 2,752 |
| Lac | 2,98.23 | 1,988 | 3,10,21 | 2,068 | 3,37,11 | 2,247 | 3,87,71 | 2,585 | 2,73.58 | 1,824 |
| Coir | 51,65 | 344 | 54,17 | 361 | 56,00 | 373 | 53.64 | 358 | 62,75 | 418 |
| Woollens | 22,67 | 151 | 20,75 | 138 | 22,03 | 153 | 27,19 | 181 | 25,05 | 167 |
| Apparel | 18,79 | 125 | 19,42 | 129 | 19.57 | 130 | 20.24 | 135 | 16 71 | 111 |
| Candles | 9,48 | 63 | 16,53 | 110 | 14,21 | 95 | 15,48 | 103 | 13,65 | 91 |
| Silks | 7,30 | 49 | 7,15 | 48 | 6,86 | 46 | 8,31 | 55 | 7,33 | 49 |

The heavy decline in **Jute goods** is the most striking feature of this statement. It amounted to R256·16 lakhs (£1,708,000) or 14 per cent. **Cotton yarn and goods,** on the other hand, show a smart recovery of R77·06 lakhs (£513,700), or 7·2 per cent, mainly attributable to the good trade done in yarns for China. **Tanned hides and skins** also show a total better by R22·88 lakhs (£152,500), but in neither of these cases is the level of two years ago exceeded or equalled. **Coi** is the only other article in which a gain is to be recorded. **Lac** shows a drop of R114·13 lakhs (£761,000); and it may be mentioned that this is accounted for by the heavy fall in values and not by any shrinkage in the quantities handled. It is interesting to remember that **candles** are manufactured in India as well as imported, and that the homemade article tends to displace the other. Thus an increase or decrease in imports is commonly found to accompany an increase or decrease in exports. In 1906-07 the exports declined by R2·33 lakhs (£15,500), while imports declined by R1·35 lakhs (£9,000). In 1907-08 they increased by R1·27 lakhs (£8,500), while imports increased by R1·54 lakhs (£10,300). In the year under review the exports have fallen by R1·81 lakhs (£12,200), while imports have fallen by R1·14 lakhs (£7,600). **Woollens,** though showing a decline of R2·15 lakhs (£14,300), still stand at a creditable level having regard to the retrospect of the trade. This cannot be said of **Silks**; but the year was one of extraordinary depression in the silk trade throughout the world. It should be remembered, in drawing any conclusions from the figures, that there are in the accounts many manufactured and partly manufactured articles which are not included in this group. They are from their nature, more properly included in the other groups of articles. For instance, milled-rice, wheat-flour, coffee, and tea are included in the group, "Articles of Food and Drink"; machinery is included in the group, "Metals", saltpetre in "Chemicals", opium and tobacco in "Narcotics", indigo in "Dyes," and vegetable and mineral oils under the group, "Oils". The group, "Articles manufactured and partly manufactured",contains such manufactured and partly manufactured articles as cannot be included under one or other of the main groups of articles.

**Cotton manufactures** represent 31·5 per cent of the total value of Indian manufactures exported and 7·7 per cent of the whole export trade. If the industry had depended on the Indian market alone, it would have fared ill in 1908-09. For business was weighted by the shortage of crops, by high prices of food grains, and by the fact that all marriages, with their attendant ceremonies and gifts of cloth, were postponed because the year was regarded as inauspicious. In the chapter on General Summary of trade, a rough estimate is made of the sum represented by the rise in prices of food grains. In spite of the movement for the preference of indigenous manufactures, it does not appear that these felt the pinch of hard times less than the imported goods. The looms were kept at work; the cloth market became choked; and there were accumulated large stocks which even abatement of price failed to liquidate. In 1907, when a shortage of yarn existed in Europe, occasion was taken to put Indian products on the market. A good business was done and it was seen that the trade is one that will last if treated with reasonable consideration. It is strongly asserted that many Indian shippers did not so treat it but were at least careless about count, reeling, etc. In the face of the collapse in the Western yarn market, it is impossible to say how far the conduct of these Indian shippers contributed to the temporary cessation of the shipments to Europe. But its cessation would have been much

more seriously felt, had not the situation been saved by the appearance of a timely demand from China. It was known that stocks in that country had reached a low ebb; and when assurance of good crops was obtained the repairing of the deficit throughout a vast territory gave rise to very active purchases. These conditions were stimulated by the continuous fall in the tael exchange which stood at R189¼ (£12 12*s.* 4*d.*) per 100 taels at the beginning of April 1908, declined to R177¼ (£11 16*s.* 4*d.*) in the first week of May, climbed to R187¾ (£12 10*s.* 4*d.*) by 25th June, then fell away steadily verging on R176 (£11 14*s.* 8*d.*) at the end of September, dropping heavily to R171¼ (£11 8*s.* 4*d.*) in the first week of November, touching its lowest point at R166¼ (£11 1*s.* 8*d.*) at the beginning of December, and at last moved slowly upwards to R178 (£11 17*s.* 4*d.*). These conditions, both as regards bareness of market and as regards the unfavourable hardening of exchange, prevailed at the close of the statistical year. That the prospect, though possibly less bright than it seemed at the best season of 1907, is not regarded by the share market as discouraging is shown by the following fact. A calculation based upon the share values of fifty spinning and weaving companies shows the value per R100 of share capital to have been R118 (£7 17*s.* 4*d.*) at the end of March 1909 as compared with R119 (£7 18*s.* 8*d.*) a year earlier. The joint-stock capital engaged in the industry is R14·93 crores (£9·95 millions) as compared with R14·03 crores (£9·35 millions) in 1907-08. In the same period the number of hands employed has grown from 220,363 to 231,758, the number of mills from 223 to 225, the number of spindles from 5,696,994 to 5,875,798, and the number of looms from 65,307 to 72,931. The average production of yarn per mensem has grown from 53,191,260 lbs to 54,798,763 lbs. The rates of increase have therefore been as follows: Capital 6·4 per cent, labour 5·2 per cent, spindles 3·1 per cent, looms 11·7 per cent, and production of yarn 3 per cent.

The following statement shows for each of the last five years the spinning and weaving plant in position, the production of yarn and of cloth, and the average monthly production per spindle and per loom:

| | Spindles | Yarn production | Average monthly production per spindle | Looms | Cloth production | Average monthly production per loom |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | lbs | lbs | No. | lbs | lbs |
| 1904-05 | 5,130,832 | 578,381,275 | 9·4 | 45,960 | 158,746,555 | 288 |
| 1905-06 | 5,229,098 | 680,918,851 | 10·8 | 50,910 | 163,880,194 | 268 |
| 1906-07 | 5,480,524 | 653,700,460 | 9·9 | 58,240 | 165,767,858 | 237 |
| 1907-08 | 5,696,994 | 638,295,115 | 9·3 | 64,330 | 189,051,729 | 245 |
| 1908-09 | 5,875,798 | 657,585,159 | 9·3 | 72,931 | 192,364,697 | 220 |

The following statement shows the quantities and values of yarn and piece-goods exported in the last five years, **the unit being 1,000:**

| | Yarn | | | Piece-goods | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | R | £ | Yards | R | £ |
| 1904-05 | 247,855 | 9,81,57= | 6,544 | 87,456 | 1,65,14= | 1,101 |
| 1905-06 | 297,634 | 12,38,77 | 8,258 | 91,975 | 1,86,59 | 1,244 |
| 1906-07 | 243,517 | 10,39,65 | 6,931 | 76,699 | 1,65,37 | 1,102 |
| 1907-08 | 215,576 | 8,97,30 | 5,982 | 74,128 | 1,63,75 | 1,092 |
| 1908-09 | 235,469 | 9,68,05 | 6,454 | 77,989 | 1,70,36 | 1,136 |

The yarn produced includes the indigenous yarn subsequently woven into cloth. It will be seen that the production of yarn was less by 3·4 per cent than in 1905-06 but greater than in any other year and 3 per cent greater than in 1907-08.

The total increase in production was 19,290,000 lbs, and the activity of the export business is shown by the fact that 19,893,300 lbs more were shipped than in the previous year. The exports still fall far short of the records of some earlier years but they mark an improvement of 9·2 per cent on that of 1907-08. The production of cloth exceeded the record figures for 1907-08 by 16,063,000 yards or 2 per cent; but only 3,861,000 yards of this were added to the previous year's figure of shipments, and the total compares ill with the statistics of such years as 1904-5-6.

In value, yarn represents 83·9 per cent of the total exports of cotton goods; and it has shown a net increase of R70·75 lakhs (£471,700) or 7·9 per cent to R968·05 lakhs (£6,453,700). The exports to China represent 88·2 per cent of the total value as against 74 per cent in 1907-08 and they showed an advance of R187·54 lakhs (£1,250,000) or 128·1 per cent to R854·09 lakhs (£5,694,000). The quantity of yarn shipped from the United Kingdom to the Further East in the calendar year 1908 was 11·5 millions of lbs as against 10·1 millions of lbs in 1907.

On the other hand, India's exports of yarn to countries other than China fell away by R116·79 lakhs (£778,600) to R113·96 lakhs (£759,700). The figures relating to the Straits Settlements shared this decline and fell by R5·46 lakhs (£36,400) to R24·98 lakhs (£166,500).

The trade with the Levant and Black Sea which in 1907-08 had been brought to 8,944,280 lbs with a value of R37·35 lakhs (£249,000) receded to 7,450,046 lbs with a value of R28·83 lakhs (£192,200). Turkey in Europe, which had taken 1,925,784 lbs in 1907-08, reduced its demand to 454,240 lbs with a value of R1·53 lakhs (£10,200); and the shipments to Egypt fell off from 3,017,176 lbs to 2,089,420 lbs with a value of R8·2 lakhs (£54,700).

The trade with Europe, to which allusion has already been made and which showed promise in 1907-08, fell away from 29,171,357 lbs to 5,006,346 lbs; but the better class of spinners seem confident that it will emerge again when the China demand abates and conditions in Europe become less depressed.

In value, the increase in exports of **piece-goods** was one of 4 per cent or R6·62 lakhs (£44,100) to R170·36 lakhs (£1,135,700), the specific value apparently declining by 1·1 per cent.

**Grey goods** represent 37·3 per cent of the piece-goods; and in that branch the trade increased by 10·5 per cent in quantity and 6·5 per cent in value, bringing the total to 43,572,079 yards and R63·61 lakhs (£424,000) with a specific value 3·6 per cent lower than in the previous year. The shipments of grey goods to China advanced from 926,170 yards and R1·19 lakhs (£8,000) to 3,647,394 yards and R4·93 lakhs (£32,900), the increase being 293·8 per cent in quantity and 314·9 per cent in value. In 1908 the shipments of plain cotton cloth from England to the Further East amounted to 609 million yards as compared with 596 millions in 1907. But the principal foreign markets for Indian cloth are East Africa (with 15,092,964 yards), Asiatic Turkey (8,809,347 yards), and Aden (7,954,014 yards).

The decline in **coloured goods** was continued, though it amounted only to ·4 per cent, and the total of 34,178,000 yards was little lower than the figure of a year earlier.

**Dyed and printed** cloths go mainly from Madras and Bombay to the Straits, Ceylon, and the Philippines; and the shipments in 1908-09 from the two ports named had a value of R76·92 lakhs (£512,800) and R27·63 lakhs (£84,000) respectively.

The shipment of Indian piece-goods by sea from Bombay Presidency to other provinces declined by 27,050,000 yards or 11·3 per cent to 211,951,000 yards and by R34·9 lakhs (£232,600) or 9 per cent to R352·7 lakhs (£2,351,000).

**Prices** in 1907-08 had held fairly good with T-cloths moving from 9 annas (or pence) to $9\frac{1}{2}$ annas (or pence) and with 20s twist averaging $6\frac{11}{64}$ annas (or pence) in April 1908 and $6\frac{5}{32}$ annas (or pence) in March 1909. In the year under review, however, the price of cloth was weak. T-cloths opened at $9\frac{1}{2}$ annas (or pence) and closed at $8\frac{3}{8}$ annas (or pence), but 20s yarns advanced from $6\frac{1}{8}$ to $6\frac{23}{64}$ annas (or pence).

**Jute manufactures,** in the three years ending 1907-08, represented 41·2 per cent of the total value of exports of Indian manufactured articles. In 1908-09 this percentage rose to 42·9 per cent; but it will be seen that this is due to the contraction recorded in other lines.

The year was marked by a heavy drop in the prices of the raw material and of manufactured products. This was due, not only to the general decline in mercantile activity and to the presence of heavy stocks in some of the most important markets, but to the shortage in Indian grain and seed crops and the consequent decrease in the demand for bags. Spinners abroad made considerable purchases of raw jute on the lower level of prices in expectation of a recovery that did not appear; and many Calcutta producers of cloths looked also for a rise and stood out of some important markets only to find, later on, that their Dundee competitors had seized such opportunity as existed. But in Dundee as in Calcutta the year has been one of short business and poor returns. There have been repeated endeavours to concert a movement for short-time; but in Calcutta these were frustrated by the abstention of those mills which were well placed in respect of purchases and sales. The average price of jute bags (A. T. $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs) in Calcutta in 1907-08 was R29-11-0 (£1 19s. 7d.) per 100. In 1908-09 it was R24-11-6 (£1 12s. $11\frac{1}{2}d$). Those relating to Hessian cloth ($10\frac{1}{2}$ oz.40″) per 100 yards were as follows—in 1907-08 R13-15-2 (18s. $7\frac{1}{16}d$.), in 1908-09 R10-15-9 (14s. $7\frac{3}{4}d$). The opening, closing, highest, and lowest rates during the year under review were as follows:

| | Bags | | | | | | Cloth | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | a. | | £ | s. | d. | R | a. | | s. | d. |
| Opening | 25 | 8 | = | 1 | 14 | 0 | 12 | 0 | = | 16 | 0 |
| Highest | 27 | 4 | | 1 | 16 | 4 | 12 | 4 | | 16 | 4 |
| Lowest | 23 | 12 | | 1 | 11 | 8 | 9 | 12 | | 13 | 0 |
| Closing | 24 | 12 | | 1 | 13 | 0 | 10 | 0 | | 13 | 4 |

Under such conditions the pressure of increased manufacturing power was naturally felt. The following statement shows the growth in the number of spindles and looms in position in India in the last six years:

| | Spindles | | Looms | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percentage increase | Number | Percentage increase |
| 1903-04 | 376,718 | 6·96 | 18,400 | 7·04 |
| 1904-05 | 409,170 | 8·61 | 19,991 | 8·65 |
| 1905-06 | 453,168 | 10·75 | 21,986 | 9·98 |
| 1906-07 | 520,504 | 14·84 | 25,284 | 15 |
| 1907-08 | 562,274 | 8·03 | 27,244 | 7·75 |
| 1908-09 | 595,135 | 5·84 | 29,002 | 6·45 |

In 1884 when the Indian Jute Mills Association was formed, the number of looms was only 6,337. If reference be made to the article that deals with

Imports of Machinery, it will be seen that there are some indications of a check. The effect of the year on the industry may to some extent be gathered from the fact that, at its close the average value per R100 (£6 13*s.* 4*d.*) of share capital in Jute Mills was found to have a value of R129 (£8 12*s.*), as compared with R131 (£8 14*s.* 8*d.*) a year before.

The following statement shows for the last five years the value of the exports of various classes of goods, the *unit being 1,000* :—

| | | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags | No. | 201,436 | 233,326 | 257,683 | 293,029 | 300,906 |
| | R | 4,75,54 | 6,07,84 | 7,34,72 | 8,47,51 | 7,76,65 |
| | £ | 3,170 | 4,052 | 4,898 | 5,651 | 5,178 |
| Cloth | Yards | 575,512 | 658,671 | 696,068 | 789,856 | 769,799 |
| | R | 5,11,61 | 6,30,50 | 8,25,87 | 9,69,29 | 7,89,02 |
| | £ | 3,411 | 4,203 | 5,506 | 6,462 | 5,260 |
| Value of all sorts | R | 9,93,89 | 12,44,80 | 15,71,62 | 18,29,76 | 15,73,60 |
| | £ | 6,626 | 8,299 | 10,477 | 12,198 | 10,491 |

The exports of *Bags* increased by 7,877,000 or 2·7 per cent in number; but as regards value there was a contraction of R70·86 lakhs (£472,400) or 8·4 per cent, the difference between these rates arguing a fall of 11 per cent in specific value. This is the first year since 1901-02 in which a decline has taken place.

In *Cloth* the results were even worse, for we find a decline of more than 20 million yards or 2·5 per cent in quantity as well as one of R180·27 lakhs (£1,201,800) or 18·6 per cent in value. Here the fall in specific value would appear to be about 16·5 per cent. It is interesting at this point to revert to the fact that the specific value of raw jute fell by 12·4 per cent.

The largest single buyer of jute fabrics from India is the United States which takes her supplies mainly as cloth. The value of her purchases in 1908-09 was R522·95 lakhs (£3,486,000) as compared with R664·64 lakhs (£4,431,000) in the previous year, which marks a drop of 21·3 per cent. Of this total R54·06 lakhs (£360,400) is accounted for by *bags*, that figure being, however, 32·3 per cent less than in 1907-08. Australia is the largest single purchaser of bags; and although the value receded by 7·1 per cent to R158·62 lakhs=£1,057,500 (which is much the same figure as was recorded two years ago), the quantity taken was only 20·4 per cent more than in 1907-08. Shipments to the United Kingdom fell from R109·11 lakhs (£727,400) to R96·14 lakhs (£641,000), the decline being nearly 12 per cent. Those to Germany also fell off from R26·32 lakhs (£175,500) to R23·93 lakhs (£159,500). Egypt's demand grew by 23 per cent, from R42·33 lakhs (£282,000) to R52·12 lakhs (£347,500), but that of Turkey in Europe shrank to R4·54 lakhs (£30,300) in place of R6·1 lakhs (£41,000) in 1907-08. Turkey in Asia with R15·76 lakhs (£105,000) also showed a heavy decrease. Argentina takes her supplies mainly as cloth of hessian quality for manufacture into grain bags and the value of her purchases in 1908-09 was R225 lakhs (£1,500,000) as compared with R240·90 lakhs (£1,606,000) in the previous year. Chile, on the other hand, buys nitrate bags ready made of sacking quality and in 1907-08 she figured for R58·53 lakhs (£390,000) under this head. In the year under review the value dropped by 20·4 per cent to R46·56 lakhs (£310,400), and Peru also figures at the reduced total of R8·65 lakhs (£57,700) in place of R10·46 lakhs (£69,700) in 1907-08. China more than doubled her low demand of the previous year, but only approached her normal demand at R44·4 lakhs (£296,000). This movement was accompanied

by a contraction of the Straits Settlements figures by some 28 per cent to R44·56 lakhs (£297,100). That figure, as representing the trade of a distributing centre, may be regarded in relation to those for other points in the same region. Indo-China, with a total of 33·48 lakhs (£223,000), showed a decline of 18·7 per cent; while direct consignments to Java rose by 18·4 per cent to R25·9 lakhs (£173,000) and those to Siam by 54·6 per cent to R27·6 lakhs (£184,000). The decline in the shipments to West Indies is less marked, but brings their figure to R31·03 lakhs (£207,000) in place of R35·16 lakhs (£234,400) in 1907-08. The drop in those to Cape Colony on the other hand is heavy, namely, from R17·02 lakhs (£113,500) to R12·26 lakhs (£81,700); and Natal shows the same rate of consumption and decline in receding from R16·93 lakhs (£113,000) to R12·21 lakhs (£81,400).

The decrease in the exports of **cloth** is one of 20,057,000 yards and R180·27 lakhs (£1,201,800); and the totals are less than those in the previous year by 2·5 per cent in quantity and 18·6 per cent in value. Of the total, the United States took 65 per cent with a value of R468·89 lakhs (£3,126,000) in place of R584·85 lakhs (£3,899,000) in the previous year. The shipments to the Argentine fell off from R240·91 lakhs (£1,606,000) to R225·01 lakhs (£1,500,000); while Uruguay took R13·39 lakhs (£89,000) in place of R10·89 lakhs (£72,600) in 1907-08. Consignments to the United Kingdom, which are largely for distribution, have receded considerably in the last two years after a marked rise, and now have a value of R29·3 lakhs (£195,000), which is 42·6 per cent less than in 1907-08. Australia, which in that year took R30·66 lakhs (£204,400) in cloth in addition to her bags, has reduced her requirements to R26·42 lakhs (£176,000), and the direct trade with China now amounts to only R3·74 lakhs (£25,000).

In exports of **Silk manufactures** there has been a reaction of 11·8 per cent; and their total value is only R7·33 lakhs (£49,000) in place of R8·31 lakhs (£55,400)in 1907-08. The goods are chiefly tissues woven in Bengal from indigenous silks. Elsewhere the industry is conducted mainly for the Indian market; and its abstention from exportation does not necessarily indicate inactivity. Its scattered and unorganised condition does, however, prevent its commanding attention commercially; and it is satisfactory to note that some success is attending such essays in co-operation as that made by the Benares Silk Weavers' Co-operative Central Association.

Exports of **Woollen manufactures** represent only ·9 per cent of the exports of Indian textile goods. Their total in 1908-09 is less by 7·9 per cent than in the previous year, and has a value of R25·05 lakhs (£167,000) as compared with R27·19 lakhs (£181,000). **Rugs and carpets** form 89·7 per cent of this total; and their value of R22·46 lakhs (£149,700) shows a fall of 8 per cent as compared with R24·4 lakhs (£163,000) in 1907-08. The greater part of this shrinkage of R1·94 lakhs (£13,000) is accounted for by the continued drop in the demand from America which has recently been resorting more to the Levantine markets. The share of the United States is now only R3·61 lakhs (£24,070) as against R4·72 lakhs (£31,500) in 1907-08; but the United Kingdom, though taking carpets to the value of R17·27 lakhs (£115,000) and so doing the bulk of the trade, has also reduced her purchases by R97,000 (£6,467). **Piece-goods** and other miscellaneous manufactures fell away by 7·5 per cent, that is to say, from R2·79 lakhs (£18,600) to R2·58 lakhs (£17,200). The imports of **woollen yarns** declined by 24,124 lbs and by R1·74 lakhs (£11,600); while

it may be noted that the production in the Indian woollen mills has been as follows in the last three years, **the unit being 1,000** :

| | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Quantity lbs | 2,827 | 2,945 | 3,416 |
| Value . | ₹34,82 = (£232) | ₹34,13 = (£227) | ₹44,00 = (£293) |

The exports of **Apparel** declined from ₹20·24 lakhs (£135,000) to ₹16·71 lakhs (£111,400), the decline being one of ₹3·53 lakhs (£23,500) or 17·4 per cent. **Boots and Shoes,** which form the most important sub head in this class, declined from ₹5·57 lakhs (£37,000) to ₹4·56 lakhs (£30,400). Re-exports of foreign boots and shoes amounted to ₹34,000 (£2,267) as compared with ₹35,304 (£2,354) in 1907-08.

**Coir**—The trade in coir-matting and other manufactures of coir is almost entirely in the hands of Madras, and the steady growth in the exports has been accelerated in 1908-09. Their value amounted in 1908-09 to ₹62·75 lakhs (£418,300), of which the United Kingdom took ₹19·52 lakhs (£130,000), Germany ₹15·3 lakhs (£102,000), Holland ₹3·94 lakhs (£26,300), Belgium ₹5·76 lakhs (£38,400), France ₹5·33 lakhs (£35,500), and the United States ₹6·52 lakhs (£43,500).

**Hides and skins, tanned,** on the average of the three years ending 1907-08, represented 30 per cent of the total value of all hides and skins exported. The depression of trade had largely affected the world's leather business in 1907, but 1908 saw a certain revival and the imports of leather into the United Kingdom in that year showed an increase of 9·9 per cent in quantity and 6·4 per cent in value. The total exports of **tanned hides** and **skins** in 1908-09 rose from ₹389·97 lakhs (£2,599,800) to ₹412·85 lakhs (£2,752,300). The increase is ascribable entirely to the **tanned hides** section which, as may be seen from the statement below, increased in quantity by 39,627 cwts or 30·1 per cent, and in value by ₹34·11 lakhs (£227,400) or 32·3 per cent, the rise in specific value being 1·7 per cent, and the average value ₹81·57 (£5-8-9) per cwt against ₹80·22 (£5-6-11½) in the previous year. On the other hand, the exports of **tanned skins** receded by 9,245 cwts and ₹11·22 lakhs (£74,800), the decline being 6·1 per cent in quantity and 3·9 per cent in total value, which marks a rise of 2·3 per cent in specific value. The average value in this class was ₹191·68 (£12-15-7) per cwt as against ₹187·4 (£12-9-10) in the previous year. It is necessary, however, to remind readers that these two classes of hides and skins comprise many diverse descriptions and qualities and that these vary in relative quantity from year to year, so that it is not permissible to regard the fluctuations in average value with such reliance as is warranted in the case of a single article or a homogeneous and constant group.

The following is a statement of the total exportation in the two classes in the last six years, **the unit being 1,000 :**

| | Tanned Hides | | | | Tanned Skins | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | No | ₹ | £ | Cwt | No | ₹ | £ |
| 1903-04 | . 103 | = 1,569 | 61,46 | = 410 | 162 | = 18,526 | 2,48,43 | = 1,656 |
| 1904-05 | . 123 | 1,826 | 82,52 | 550 | 139 | 15,493 | 2,02,65 | 1,351 |
| 1905-06 | . 202 | 2,917 | 1,54,80 | 1,032 | 139 | 16,884 | 2,11,04 | 1,407 |
| 1906-07 | . 220 | 3,278 | 1,72,96 | 1,153 | 150 | 18,097 | 2,72,16 | 1,814 |
| 1907-08 | . 132 | 1,894 | 1,05,52 | 703 | 152 | 18,427 | 2,84,45 | 1,896 |
| 1908-09 | . 171 | 2,483 | 1,39,63 | 931 | 143 | 17,859 | 2,73,23 | 1,822 |

In **tanned hides** Madras predominated and exported 84·6 per cent of the total weight, while Bombay's share was 14·3 per cent. In **tanned skins** also these provinces almost monopolised the trade with 80·1 per cent and 18·4 per cent, respectively.

In the absence of a protective tariff, the United Kingdom continues to take the greater part of the tanned hides and skins; though the movement in the United States for reduction of the import duties has received a fresh impulse from the general revision of the tariff. In hides, Britain's share of the total has advanced from 95·9 per cent to 97·2 per cent, and the total quantity of her purchases from 126,132 cwts to 166,414 cwts in 1908-09. In skins, her demand has amounted to 112,992 cwts in place of 122,479 cwts, and her share has fallen to 79·3 per cent as compared with her participation of 80·7 per cent in the larger total of the previous year. The United States have taken 20,259 cwts of skins in place of 19,309 cwts in the previous year. This quantity represents 14·2 per cent of the total in this class.

**Lac** is an article associated with the electrical industry and with the manufacture of high-class varnishes, of hats, and of records for gramophones and talking machines. Several of these are new industries; and the manufacture of varnish had received a stimulus from the boom in the motor trade. Consequently the demand for lac increased greatly in recent years and the price rose rapidly. But since the articles in question are of the nature of luxuries, their reaction on the collapse of trade has been the more marked and the price of lac has fallen away enormously.

The following statement shows the prices per cwt, in Calcutta:

| | 1907-08 | | | | | | | 1908-09 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | a. | p. | £ | s. | d. | | ₹ | a. | p. | £ | s. | d. |
| Opening . . | (April) | 156 | 8 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 6 | (April) | 65 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 1 |
| Highest . . | (April) | 156 | 8 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 8 | (June) | 100 | 11 | 7 | 6 | 14 | 4 |
| Lowest . . | (March) | 62 | 9 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 6 | (March) | 47 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Closing . . | (March) | 62 | 9 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 6 | (March) | 49 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| Average . . | | 107 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 1 | | 68 | 11 | 9 | 4 | 11 | 8 |

The average price therefore was 35·9 per cent lower than in 1907-08.

The crop in 1908 was exceptionally large and the following statement of exports will show that it went forward in large quantities in spite of unattractive prices. Strictly, only the manufactured articles, shell and button lac, should be discussed in this section; but since it is really a raw material, it is interesting to collate the figures relating to the two branches of the trade.

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| Shellac . | 205,473 | 2,89,75,551 | =1,931,704 | 278,338 | 3,32,38,167 | =2,215,878 | 322,953 | 2,46,51,307 | =1,643,420 |
| Button lac . | 37,117 | 44,45,914 | 296,394 | 39,512 | 46,80,489 | 312,032 | 31,415 | 23,33,005 | 155,534 |
| Total . | 242,590 | 3,34,21,465 | 2,228,098 | 317,850 | 3,79,18,656 | 2,527,910 | 354,368 | 2,69,84,312 | 1,798,954 |
| Stick and seed lac . | 15,188 | 12,86,242 | 85,749 | 22,740 | 20,59,704 | 137,314 | 8,630 | 5,88,612 | 39,241 |

A given quantity of seed or stick lac such as is exported may be taken as yielding about fifty per cent shell or button lac.

The exports of **Shellac** increased by 16 per cent in quantity but fell off by 25·8 per cent in the total value, which discrepancy argues a drop of 36·1 per cent in specific value. **Botton lac,** on the other hand, contracted by 20·5 per cent in quantity and 50·2 per cent in total value, so that the fall in its specific value

tallies approximately with that found in respect of shellac. On the average of the last three years the **two classes** of manufactured lac represent respectively 83·7 per cent and 11 per cent of the total. Together they increased in quantity by 11·5 per cent in the year under review and fell by 28.8 per cent in value. On the other hand, the exports of the crude material, stick lac and seed lac, dropped by 62 per cent to a level lower than has been seen since 1904-05; and the still greater drop of 71·4 per cent in total value marks a loss of nearly 25 per cent in specific value. Here again it may be reiterated that the valuation of exports not subject to duty is apt to be loose.

The United States maintain their position as the principal buyer of shellac and button lac but with a total value of only R111·12 lakhs (£740,800) as compared with R134·45 lakhs (£896,300) in 1907-08. The United Kingdom reduced her demand from R119·02 lakhs (£793,500) to R75·82 lakhs (£505,500), while Germany took R57·31 lakhs (£382,100) in place of R98·58 lakhs (£657,200) in 1907-08. The shares of these three countries were therefore 39·8 per cent, 27·1 per cent, and 20·5 per cent, respectively.

**General distribution of the export trade**—The shares borne by the principal countries of destination in the exports of merchandise from India in the last five years have been as follows:—

| | 1904-05 Per cent | 1905-06 Per cent | 1906-07 Per cent | 1907-08 Per cent | 1908-09 Per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. United Kingdom | 27·5 | 25·3 | 27·1 | 25·9 | 24 |
| 2. China | 12·6 | 13·5 | 10·9 | 8·6 | 12 |
| 3. Germany | 9·3 | 9·3 | 11·4 | 11·7 | 10 |
| 4. United States | 6·3 | 8·2 | 9 | 7·8 | 8·8 |
| 5. France | 6·2 | 6 | 6·5 | 6·6 | 6·4 |
| 6. Japan | 6·3 | 6·3 | 4·1 | 5·1 | 4·8 |
| 7. Belgium | 5·4 | 4·1 | 4·2 | 5·3 | 4 |
| 8. Ceylon | 3·2 | 3·5 | 3·7 | 3·6 | 3·9 |
| 9. Straits Settlements | 4·1 | 4 | 3·8 | 3·9 | 3·5 |
| 10. Italy | 2·8 | 3 | 3·3 | 3·2 | 3·3 |
| 11. Austria-Hungary | 3 | 3 | 3·5 | 3·7 | 3·1 |
| 12. Egypt | 0·8 | 1 | 1·1 | 1·1 | 2·4 |

The total value was R149·82 crores (£99·88 millions) in place of R173·48 crores (£115·65 millions) in 1907-08.

The share of the United Kingdom has declined nearly 2 per cent, mainly as a consequence of the small shipments of cotton, wheat, and seeds. Her total fell from R44·9 crores (£29·93 millions) to R36·07 crores (£24·05 millions). Germany shows an even greater decline, having taken exports only to the value of R15 crores (£10 millions) in place of R20·24 crores (£13·49 millions) in 1907-08. But some goods for Germany are shipped to Belgium, and for this reason it is well that the latter's diminished total of R6 crores (£4 millions) in place of R9·15 crores (£6·1 millions) in 1907-08 should mentally be bracketed with that for Germany. The large exports of yarn and opium to China helped to raise her total from R14·98 crores (£9·99 millions) to R17·96 crores (£11·97 millions) and to augment her percentage; while jute goods account to a considerable extent for the decrease of the United States from R13·52 crores (£9·01 millions) to R13·21 crores (£8·81 millions), though their share rose by 1 per cent. The short shipments in oilseeds contributed to the fall from R11·5 crores (£7·67 millions) to R9·59 crores (£6·41 millions) shown by the exports to France, and those of rice to Japan for the drop of her total to R7·17 crores (£4·78 millions) in place of R8·87 crores (£5·91 millions) in 1907-08.

Exports to Ceylon were R5·82 crores (£3·88 millions) as compared with R6·25 crores (£4·17 millions) in 1907-08, while those to the Straits Settlements fell from R6·82 crores (£4·55 millions) to R5·26 crores (£3·51 millions). Italy's total was R5·02 crores (£3·35 millions) in place of R5·54 crores (£3·7 millions) in 1907-08. Austria-Hungary dropped from R6·35 crores (£4·23 millions) to R4·65 crores (£3·1 millions), but Egypt with R3·63 crores (£2·42 millions) in place of R1·86 crores (£1·24 millions) in the previous year showed an advance which may be reduced on receipt of advices as to the ultimate destinations of cargoes sent to that country "to await orders."

## TRADE ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

The following statement shows in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling** the value of the trade of British India in private merchandise with various main divisions of the world:

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Europe . . | 1,91,91,07 | = 127,941 | 2,09,57,49 | = 139,717 | 1,76,84,20 | = 117,895 |
| Asia . . . | 58,97,88 | 39,319 | 63,07,31 | 42,049 | 61,89,28 | 41,262 |
| America . . | 21,87,35 | 14,582 | 21,42,16 | 14,281 | 20,68,23 | 13,788 |
| Africa and adjacent island . | 8,49,28 | 5,662 | 9,05,92 | 6,039 | 10,81,15 | 7,207 |
| Australasia . . | 3,61,78 | 2,412 | 4,01,19 | 2,675 | 4,03,18 | 2,688 |
| Total . | 2,84,87,36 | 189,916 | 3,07,14,07 | 204,761 | 2,74,26,04 | 182,840 |

The trade with **Europe** (which now represents 64·5 per cent of the total as compared with 68·2 per cent in the previous year) declined by R32·73 crores (£21,822,000) or 15·6 per cent. That with **Asia** fell by R118·03 lakhs (£787,000); but as the decline in other directions was relatively greater, her share in the total rose from 20·5 per cent to 22·6 per cent. **America** stands third in order of importance, having accounted for 7·5 per cent of the total trade; and here the decline amounts to only R73·93 lakhs (£493,000) or 3·4 per cent. Trade with the United States represents 80 per cent of the American total. **Africa** on the other hand showed an improvement of R175·23 lakhs (£1,168,000), while Australasia added nearly R2 lakhs (£13,000) to her steadily increasing record. Of the trade with Europe, R81·47 lakhs (£543,000) or 46 per cent were exports, while R95·37 lakhs (£635,800) or 54 per cent consisted of imports The trade with Asia consisted of 70·7 per cent exports and 29·3 per cent imports. Exports to America represented 84·2 per cent of the American total. Africa took twice as much and Australasia three times as much as they severally supplied.

Trade with the **United Kingdom** fell from R13,239 lakhs (£88,260,000) to R11,273 lakhs (£75,157,000), the reduction being R1,966 lakhs (£13,100,000) or 14·8 per cent. Her share in the total trade was 41·1 per cent and her share in the trade with all British Possessions was 74·1 per cent.

The trade with **British Possessions other than the United Kingdom** was R3,945·55 lakhs (£26,303,700) in place of R3,990·59 lakhs (£26,604,000). That figure forms 14·4 per cent of the total trade and marks a fall of 1·1 per cent as compared with the previous year.

The trade with **all British Possessions** represented 55·5 per cent of the whole trade and declined by 11·7 per cent: that is to say from R17,229·6 lakhs (£114,864,000) to R5,219·65 lakhs (£101,460,000).

Trade with **foreign countries** represented 44·5 per cent of the whole trade and declined by 9·5 per cent: that is to say from R13,484·46 lakhs (£89,896,400 to R12,206·99 lakhs (£81,380,000).

The following statement shows India's trade with **each principal country** in the last three years, the **unit being one thousand**—

| | 1906-07 | | | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | per cent | R | £ | per cent | R | £ | per cent |
| United Kingdom | 120,04,33 = | 80,029 | 42·1 | 132,39,02 = | 88,260 | 43·1 | 112,73,50 = | 75,157 | 41·1 |
| China | 20,53,49 | 13,690 | 7·2 | 17,35,91 | 11,573 | 5·7 | 20,47,54 | 13,637 | 7·5 |
| Germany | 25,56,29 | 17,042 | 9 | 25,45,04 | 16,967 | 8·3 | 19,98,03 | 13,326 | 7·3 |
| United States | 18,19,85 | 12,132 | 6·4 | 16,77,03 | 11,180 | 5·5 | 16,48,55 | 10,990 | 6 |
| France | 12 71,61 | 8,477 | 4·5 | 13,59,35 | 9,062 | 4·4 | 11,43,93 | 7,626 | 4·2 |
| Belgium | 11,56,24 | 7,708 | 4·1 | 14,46,56 | 9,644 | 4·7 | 11,22,29 | 7,482 | 4·1 |
| Japan | 8,72,24 | 5,815 | 3·1 | 11,04,89 | 7,366 | 3·6 | 9,30,52 | 6,203 | 3·4 |
| Straits Settlements | 9,43,48 | 6,290 | 3·3 | 10,09,96 | 6,733 | 3·3 | 8,88,58 | 5,924 | 3·2 |
| Austria-Hungary | 9,12,23 | 6,081 | 3·2 | 9,04,26 | 6,028 | 2·9 | 8,55,81 | 5,705 | 3·1 |
| Java | 3,43,35 | 2,289 | 1·2 | 6,95,44 | 4,635 | 2·3 | 6,77,86 | 4,519 | 2·5 |
| Ceylon | 7,35,93 | 4,906 | 2·6 | 7,34,79 | 4,898 | 2·4 | 6,67,87 | 4,453 | 2·4 |
| Italy | 6,83,21 | 4,555 | 2·4 | 6,79 22 | 4,528 | 2·2 | 6,20,13 | 4,134 | 2·2 |
| Egypt | 2,16,13 | 1,441 | ·8 | 2,19,02 | 1,460 | ·7 | 4,01,72 | 2,678 | 1·5 |
| Mauritius | 3,47,75 | 2,318 | 1·2 | 3,55,84 | 2,372 | 1·1 | 3,74,64 | 2,498 | 1·4 |
| Australia | 3,08,80 | 2,059 | 1·1 | 3,34,47 | 2,230 | 1·1 | 3,38,73 | 2,258 | 1·2 |
| South America | 2,36,49 | 1,577 | ·8 | 3,64,08 | 2,427 | 1·2 | 3,28,18 | 2,188 | 1·2 |
| Turkey, Asiatic | 1,66,95 | 1,113 | ·6 | 2,59,71 | 1,731 | ·8 | 2,47,52 | 1,650 | ·9 |
| Holland | 2,43,09 | 1,621 | ·9 | 3,24,17 | 2,161 | 1·05 | 2,03,22 | 1,355 | ·8 |
| Spain | 1,67,78 | 1,118 | ·6 | 15,174 | 1,011 | ·5 | 1,53,76 | 1,025 | ·6 |
| Persia | 1,40,24 | 935 | ·5 | 1,63,28 | 1,088 | ·5 | 1,40,15 | 934 | ·5 |
| Russia | 86,05 | 574 | ·3 | 1,38,69 | 925 | ·4 | 1,31,70 | 878 | ·5 |
| Aden | 1,53,84 | 1,026 | ·5 | 1,45,44 | 970 | ·5 | 1,28,96 | 860 | ·5 |
| Arabia | 1,97,52 | 1,317 | ·7 | 1,28,36 | 856 | ·4 | 1,21,50 | 810 | ·4 |

Until the system of recording imports according to countries of true origin and exports in accordance with final destination has been in force for some years and has rendered retrospect possible, some of the figures in the foregoing statement must be taken with reserve.

It will be seen that China has resumed the second place in the list, the increase in her total being R309·63 lakhs (£2,064,000). This is largely due to the revival of her demand for Indian yarns, and the paragraphs relating to exports of cotton goods may be referred to for fuller particulars. The trade which, under the present system, is attributed to Germany consists of 75·3 per cent exports and 24·7 per cent imports. It fell by R546·11 lakhs (£3,641,000) and 95·7 per cent of that fall is to be ascribed to exports. Exports and imports enter into the trade with the United States in proportions of 80·2 per cent and 19·8 per cent respectively; and the decline in the total is a relatively small one of R28·48 lakhs (£190,000). France takes 84·2 per cent exports against 15·8 per cent imports, and her total trade with India receded by R215·43 lakhs (£1,436,000); while Belgium showed a contraction of R324·27 lakhs (£2,162,000). Holland, which like Belgium probably gets the credit for a certain amount of German trade, lost R120·95 lakhs (£806,300) of the figure for the previous year. Japan's total fell by R174·37 lakhs (£1,162,500), in spite of large purchases of Indian cotton; and Java also shows a decline in spite of her heavy shipments of sugar.

## CUSTOMS REVENUE

The **Tariff Schedule** showing valuation of commodities for the assessment to import duty underwent the usual revision in December 1908 and came into force on the 1st January 1909. The list of cotton goods recognised as piecegoods was revised at the same time and valuations of Indian cotton goods for Excise purposes were fixed.

No important change in Customs procedure was made during the year; but orders were passed regarding (*a*) the importation of cocaine, (*b*) remission of countervailing duty on Russian sugar, (*c*) exportation of Malwa opium by sea from Bombay, (*d*) exemption from duty of oilseeds imported by sea from Native States, (*e*) exemption of certain military band instrument and accessories.

The **gross revenue** from imports fell from R603·38 lakhs (£4,022,500) to R598·08 lakhs (£3,987,000), the drop being one of R5·3 lakhs (£35,000) or 0·9 per cent. **Refunds and drawbacks** amounted to R11·12 lakhs (£74,000) in place of R9·42 lakhs (£62,800) in 1907-08. **Net revenue** therefore declined from R593·96 lakhs (£3,959,700) to R586·96 lakhs (£3,913,000). This represents a reduction of R7 lakhs (£46,600) or 1·2 per cent. Revenue from **salt** is not included in these figures, for it is not treated as a Customs receipt. It amounted to R136·68 lakhs (£911,200) against R130·7 lakhs (£879,000) in the previous year.

The following statement shows the revenue derived in the last three years from the principal dutiable articles:

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Arms Ammunition* . . | 4,45,734 | = 29,716 | 5,55,085 | = 37,006 | 5,21,749 | = 34,783 |
| *Articles of food and drink*— | | | | | | |
| Fruits and vegetables | 3,99,975 | 26,665 | 5,33,470 | 35,565 | 5,42,788 | 36,186 |
| Spirits . . . | 77,97,770 | 519,851 | 92,65,853 | 617,724 | 95,26,881 | 635,125 |
| Wines . . . | 3,83,571 | 25,571 | 3,99,539 | 26,636 | 3,96,698 | 26,447 |
| Sugar . . . | 43,82,637 | 292,176 | 44,76,082 | 298,405 | 51,56,846 | 343,790 |
| Provisions . . | 7,41,339 | 49,423 | 8,58,109 | 57,207 | 9,57,766 | 63,851 |
| Spices . . . | 6,37,860 | 42,524 | 8,00,313 | 53,354 | 7,97,783 | 53,186 |
| *Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, and dyes*— | | | | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, and narcotics . . | 6,34,661 | 42,311 | 8,05,162 | 53,677 | 7,06,514 | 47,101 |
| Chemicals . . | 3,94,573 | 26,305 | 4,69,420 | 31,295 | 4,41,225 | 29,415 |
| Dyes and tans . . | 4,93,015 | 32,868 | 5,70,253 | 38,017 | 5,43,032 | 36,202 |
| *Metals and articles made of metals*— | | | | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 15,42,210 | 102,814 | 17,93,308 | 119,554 | 16,40,351 | 109,357 |
| Copper and brass . | 6,53,943 | 43,596 | 11,18,312 | 74,554 | 14,95,926 | 99,728 |
| Iron and steel . . | 8,14,554 | 54,304 | 10,46,999 | 69,800 | 10,32,494 | 68,833 |
| Silver . . . | 40,79,319 | 271,955 | 51,70,203 | 344,680 | 63,64,131 | 424,275 |
| *Oils*— | | | | | | |
| Petroleum . . | 37,77,026 | 251,802 | 44,63,468 | 297,565 | 53,25,734 | 355,049 |
| *Manufactures of cotton*— | | | | | | |
| Piecegoods: grey (unbleached) . . | 64,10,439 | 427,363 | 66,97,608 | 446,507 | 52,20,078 | 348,005 |
| Piecegoods: white (bleached) . . | 25,73,117 | 171,541 | 40,77,896 | 271,860 | 27,12,401 | 180,827 |
| Piecegoods: coloured | 33,48,458 | 223,230 | 38,04,353 | 253,624 | 33,13,966 | 220,931 |
| Hosiery and all other manufactured cotton goods . . . | 5,81,492 | 38,766 | 6,09,082 | 40,605 | 5,65,92[illegible] | 37,728 |

| *Other articles, unmanufactured and manufactured—* | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Apparel . . . | 9,31,560 = | 62,104 | 11,16,164 = | 74,411 | 10,49,334 = | 69,956 |
| Carriages (including motor cars and cycles) . . . | 4,70,107 | 31,340 | 5,97,188 | 39,812 | 4,64,279 | 30,952 |
| Instruments, apparatus, and appliances. | 6,09,645 | 40,643 | 6,32,034 | 42,136 | 6,00,469 | 40,031 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 4,50,116 | 30,008 | 5,60,147 | 37,343 | 5,30,883 | 35,392 |
| Silk, and articles made of silk . . | 11,92,983 | 79,532 | 15,53,361 | 103,557 | 16,88,623 | 112,575 |
| Wood and timber, and articles made of wood . . . | 4,11,029 | 27,402 | 4,27,052 | 28,470 | 3,85,719 | 25,715 |
| Woollen goods . . | 10,23,689 | 68,246 | 13,89,239 | 92,616 | 14,69,588 | 97,972 |

The gross revenue derived from these twenty-six articles is ₹534·51 lakhs (£3,563,400) or 89·4 per cent of the total.

The import duty on **Cotton fabrics** is 3½ per cent *ad valorem*, and the total revenue realized under this single head was ₹118·12 lakhs (£787,000) as against ₹151·89 lakhs (£1,012,600) in 1907-08. This is equal to 19·7 per cent of the whole Customs Revenue as compared with 25·2 per cent in the previous year. The decline points to the danger of narrowing the basis of revenue. The receipts on account of **Excise duty on cotton fabrics** on Indian manufacture increased from ₹34 lakhs (£226,700) to ₹35·44 lakhs (£236,000). This, however, falls outside of Customs Revenue proper.

The **export tariff** schedule is limited to rice and rice-flour, the duty on which is levied at the rate of three annas per maund of 82⅔ lbs. The net revenue from this source in 1908-09 was ₹80·4 lakhs (£536,000) as compared with 99·74 lakhs (£664,900) in 1907-08, which marks a fall of ₹19·34 lakhs (£129,000) or 19·4 per cent.

A duty known as the Tea Cess, at the rate of a quarter of a pie (1/48 of a penny) per lb. has been levied since 1903 on all Indian tea exported. The sum realised is paid to a committee constituted to receive and expend the proceeds on measures for promoting the sale and consumption of Indian tea. The collections in the first five years averaged ₹3,06,394 (£20,426) per annum. In 1908-09 they rose to ₹3,17,058 (£21,137).

## GOLD AND SILVER

The gold produced in India is all shipped to England for assay; and although it is not necessarily all exported in the same year in which it is produced, it is permissible to deduct its value from the total exports to find the true re-exports. The balance of the imports after deduction of these re-exports represents the value of gold absorbed by the country. The following statement is framed to show these factors in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling:**

| | Imports | | Exports: Production | | Exports: Re-exports | | Absorption | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1904-05 . | 21,81,20= | 14,541 | 3,55,59= | 2,371 | 8,55,02= | 5,700 | 13,26,18= | 8,841 |
| 1905-06 . | 14,74,90 | 9,833 | 3,58,76 | 2,392 | 10,70,34 | 7,135 | 4,04,56 | 2,698 |
| 1906-07 . | 18,53,34 | 12,356 | 3,23,37 | 2,156 | 44,36 | 295 | 18,08,98 | 12,061 |
| 1907-08 . | 20,75,26 | 13,835 | 3,14,12 | 2,094 | 24,37 | 162 | 20,50,89 | 13,673 |
| 1908-09 . | 8,40,42 | 5,603 | 3,14,62 | 2,097 | 90,26 | 602 | 7,50,16 | 5,001 |

It will be seen that the imports of gold which had averaged nearly ₹19·2 crores (£12,800,000) in the previous five years fell to ₹8·4 crores (£5,600,000). This is the lowest figure since 1902-03. Production remained practically constant.

Deducting that production from the gross exports of R404·88 lakhs (£2,699,000), we find that the re-exports, which had averaged R5·33 crores (£3,553,000) in the previous five years and R34·36 lakhs (£229,000) in the last two years, rose greatly as compared with this last average, while still falling far short of the quinquennial average. The absorption is thus seen to be only R7·5 crores (£5,000,000) as compared with a quinquennial average of R13·87 crores (£9,247,000) and with an average of about R19·3 crores (£12,866,000) in the last two years.

The descriptions of gold imported and exported during the year were as follows, **the unit being 1000:**

| | Imports | | | Exports | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | oz. | ₹ | £ | oz. | ₹ | £ |
| Bullion (bar, ingots, and other uncoined gold) | 1,026 | 6,58,73= | 4,392 | 591 | 3,35,04= | 2,234 |
| Sovereigns and other British gold coin | 274 | 1,61,87 | 1,079 | 115 | 68,13 | 454 |
| Other coined gold | 34 | 19,82 | 132 | 3 | 1,71 | 11 |
| TOTAL | 1,334 | 8,40,42 | 5,603 | 709 | 4,04,88 | 2,699 |

On account of Government, there was practically no import of gold in the year under review, but R36·07 lakhs (£240,400) were exported on Government account, while in the previous two years 1906-07 and 1907-08 there had been no exports and only R6·26 lakhs (£42,000) and R1·8 lakhs (£12,000) were imported.

Stated in ounces, the net imports and production of gold have been—

| | Production | Net-Imports | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 | 619,571 | 1,516,991 | 2,136,562 |
| 1905-06 | 625,037 | —65,473 | 559,564 |
| 1906-07 | 562,622 | 2,377,151 | 2,939,773 |
| 1907-08 | 547,645 | 2,781,340 | 3,328,985 |
| 1908-09 | 551,470 | 625,338 | 1,176,808 |

The value of the Imports, Exports, and Net imports of **Silver** during the last five years was as follows, **the unit being 1,000**:

| | Imports | | Exports. | | Net-Imports | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1904-05 | 17,69,62 | = 11,797 | 4,43,47 | = 2,956 | 13,26,15 | =8,841 |
| 1905-06 | 16,90,20 | 11,268 | 1,17,90 | 786 | 15,72,30 | 10,482 |
| 1906-07 | 26,04,64 | 17,364 | 2,04,09 | 1,361 | 24,00,55 | 16,003 |
| 1907-08 | 21,53,19 | 14,355 | 2,06,36 | 1,376 | 19,46,83 | 12,979 |
| 1908-09 | 14,33,99 | 9,560 | 2,27,15 | 1,514 | 12,06,84 | 8,046 |

It may be stated here that India is not a silver-producing country and therefore this absorption of the metal is represented in the ordinary way, that is to say, by the difference between the imports and exports which is designated Net Imports. The imports of silver were greatly restricted during the year and amounted to R1,433·99 lakhs (£9,560,000) as compared with the unprecedented level of R2,604·64 lakhs (£17,364,000) in 1906-07 and ₹2,153·19 lakhs (£14,355,000) in 1907-08. These imports took place mainly in the months of April to July and October to December 1906, and from March to October 1907. The exports were larger by about R21 to 23 lakhs (£140,000 to £153,333) than in the preceding two years. The descriptions of silver imported and

exported during the year were **in thousands of ounces and of rupees and pounds sterling**:

| | Imports | | | Exports | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | oz. | ₹ | £ | oz. | ₹ | £ |
| Bullion (bar) . . | 81,689 | 13,44,81= | 8,965 | 838 | 15,03= | 100 |
| Government of India rupees . . . | 3,317 | 88,51 | 590 | 4,407 | 1,17,51 | 783 |
| Other coins (mostly British Dollars) . | 43 | 67 | 5 | 6,064 | 94,61 | 631 |
| TOTAL . | 85 049 | 14,33,99 | 9,560 | 11,309 | 2,27,15 | 1,514 |

The exports consist chiefly of Government of India rupees, which circulate extensively in Ceylon, Mauritius, Arabia, Zanzibar, the East African Coast, and the Ports of the Persian Gulf.

The net imports of silver amounted to ₹1,206·84 lakhs (£8,046,000), which is about a half of those in 1906-07 and two-thirds of the 1907-08 net imports.

The silver coinage struck in the Indian Mints during the last five years was, **the unit being 1,000**:

| | ₹ | £ | Oz. (approximate) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 . . . . | 11,37,04= | 7,580 | 42,639 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 20,00,14 | 13,334 | 75,005 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 26,08,57 | 17,390 | 97,822 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 18,11,57 | 12,077 | 67,934 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 2,85,36 | 1,902 | 10,701 |

The last column shows the approximate quantity of the coinage calculated at the rate of 8 tolas per 3 ounces. The net imports of silver stated in **thousands of ounces** were in the same period:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1904-05 . . . . . | 74,350 |
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 84,318 |
| 1906-07 . . . . . | 118,199 |
| 1907-08 . . . . . | 97,915 |
| 1908-09 . . . . . | 73,740 |

## BALANCE OF TRADE

The figures appended show *in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling* the **excess of exports over imports,** including both merchandise and treasure, by sea in each of the last five years:

| | Including Government transactions | | Excluding Government transactions | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1904-05 . . | 30,34,19 = | 20,228 | 35,89,71 = | 23,931 |
| 1905-06 . . | 33,54,08 | 22,360 | 44,16,24 | 29,441 |
| 1906-07 . . | 20,57,02 | 13,713 | 46,77,05 | 31,180 |
| 1907-08 . . | 3,99,89 | 2,665 | 19,97,63 | 13,317 |
| 1908-09 . . | 7,90,78 | 5,272 | 15,05,38 | 10,036 |
| Average of 5 years . | 19,27,19 | 12,848 | 32,37,20 | 21,581 |

In the same years the **drawings of the Council Bills** by the Secretary of State, including those on account of the Gold Standard Reserve, but deducting sterling bills sold in India, have been as follows **in thousands**:

| | | Exchange | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | *d* | ₹ |
| 1904-05 . . . . | 24,426 | 16·045 | 36,53,57 |
| 1905-06 . . . . | 31,567 | 16·043 | 47,22,43 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 33,432 | 16·084 | 49,88,75 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 15,307 | 16·029 | 22,91,90 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 13,915 | 15·931 | 20,96,37 |
| Average of 5 years . | 23,729 | | 35,50,60 |

In the five years ending 1908-09, the average excess of exports over imports *including Government transactions* was R1,927·19 lakhs (£12,848,000), which represents 11 per cent of the average value of exports. In the same period the average drawings of the Secretary of State, as above defined, were R3,550·60 lakhs (£23,729,000), being 20·2 per cent of the average value of exports. This sum exceeds the average excess of exports over imports by R1,623·41 lakhs (£10,823,000).

*Excluding Government transactions* the average excess of exports over imports was R3,237·20 lakhs (£21,581,000), which is equal to 18·9 per cent of the average value of exports. This excess is greater by R1,310·01 lakhs (£8,733,000) than the excess found when Government transactions are included but less by R313·4 lakhs (£2,090,000) than the average amount of drawings as calculated above.

The trade figures given above are incomplete inasmuch as they relate only to the registered trade of British Indian ports. They exclude the value of Government of India securities transferred between India and England, these transfers constituting a not unimportant factor in the balance of trade equation. They also exclude both the absolutely indeterminable volume of private remittances to and from India and the not very inconsiderable value of precious stones and pearls re-exported chiefly from Bombay through the medium of the post office. The unregistered trade also consists largely of trade carried on chiefly by native craft from ports in the Native States on the west coast of India with the Persian Gulf, Arabia, and Ceylon, which is only in part registered and tabulated. To this should also be added the trade of the French and Portuguese Settlements. Some idea of the volume of the trade so excluded may be gathered from the appended figures as far as available at present, the **unit** being **1,000:**

| | 1905-06 | | | | 1906-07 | | | | 1907-08 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Import | | Export | | Import | | Export | | Import | | Export | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| French Settlements | 17·47 | =116 | 97·35 | =649 | 14·20 | =95 | 121·18 | =808 | 16·81 | =112 | 105·02 | =700 |
| Portuguese Settlements | 3·10 | 21 | 3·69 | 25 | 2·27 | 15 | 9·14 | 61 | 2·67 | 18 | 4·24 | 28 |
| Travancore | 31·21 | 208 | 12·96 | 86 | 27·53 | 183 | 12·56 | 84 | 24 | 2 | 12·87 | 86 |
| Kathiawar | 9·89 | 66 | 3·61 | 24 | 9·33 | 62 | 4·76 | 32 | 8·97 | 60 | 7·27 | 48 |

## BANK RATES AND EXCHANGE

The fluctuations of the money market will be understood from the **discount rates** charged by the Presidency Banks, and from the **rates of Exchange** on demand bills, which are quoted below :

| | Bank of | | | Rates of exchange | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal | Bombay | Madras | Highest | | Lowest | |
| 1908— | Per cent | Per cent | Per cent | *s.* | *d.* | *s.* | *d.* |
| April | 7 | 7-8 | 8-9 | 1 | $3\frac{7}{8}$ | 1 | $3\frac{7}{8}$ |
| May | 7-6 | 8-7 | 9-8 | 1 | $3\frac{7}{8}$ | 1 | $3\frac{7}{8}$ |
| June | 6-5 | 7-6 | 8-6 | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{27}{32}$ |
| July | 5-4-3 | 6-5-4-3 | 6-5-4 | 1 | $3\frac{57}{64}$ | 1 | $3\frac{27}{32}$ |
| August | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{27}{32}$ |
| September | 3-4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | $3\frac{59}{64}$ |
| October | 4 | 3-4 | 4 | 1 | $3\frac{15}{16}$ | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| November | 4-5-6 | 4-5 | 4-5 | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| December | 6 | 5-6 | 5-6 | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| 1909— | | | | | | | |
| January | 6-7-8 | 6-7 | 6-7 | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{15}{16}$ |
| February | 8 | 7 | 8 | 1 | $3\frac{15}{16}$ | 1 | $3\frac{15}{16}$ |
| March | 8-7 | 7 | 8 | 1 | $3\frac{15}{16}$ | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ |

## SHIPPING

While the net decrease in the value of imports and exports of merchandise by sea amounted to 10·7 per cent of the total for the previous year, there was a decrease of 6·4 per cent in the tonnage of shipping that entered and cleared at Indian ports. The following statement gives the numbers and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels with cargoes and in ballast which entered from and cleared to all countries:

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 | 9,798 | 13,881,336 | 1,417 |
| 1905-06 | 9,269 | 12,598,321 | 1,359 |
| 1906-07 | 9,329 | 13,775,436 | 1,477 |
| 1907-08 | 9,312 | 14,239,180 | 1,529 |
| 1908-09 | 8,001 | 12,910,823 | 1,614 |

Of these, 98·2 per cent represented steam tonnage. The total number of **steamers** that entered and cleared was 5,272 with an aggregate burden of 12,680,836 tons as against 5,928 and 13,957,229 tons in the previous year. The average tonnage per steamer increased from 2,354 to 2,405 tons The rate of increase was about 2·2 per cent.

The average tonnage per **sailing ship** increased from 83 to 84 tons.

The entries from and clearances to the **United Kingdom** were 2,871,129 tons as against 3,119,233 tons in 1907-08, and this reduced quantity represented 22·2 per cent in place of 21·9 per cent of the total tonnage.

Entries from and clearance to **British Possessions** other than the United Kingdom decreased from 5,603,697 tons to 5,185,424 tons, which represent 40·2 per cent of the total, as against 39·2 per cent in the previous year. The tonnage from and to the **British Empire** therefore amounted to 62·4 per cent of the whole in place of 61·3 per cent.

The tonnage under the **British flag,** including the Indian register, represents about 79·6 per cent of the whole, while that registered under the English Merchant Shipping Act was nearly 76·1 per cent.

The number of vessels under **foreign flags** which entered and left Indian ports was 989 with an aggregate burden of 2,490,242 tons, as against 1,065 in 1907-08 with an aggregate of 2,620,675 tons.

The numbers of vessels under the principal flags are given below:

| | 1904-05 | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| British . . . | 5,633 | 4,838 | 4,918 | 4,785 | 4,238 |
| German . . | 339 | 387 | 371 | 375 | 437 |
| Austro-Hungarian . | 156 | 162 | 159 | 157 | 156 |
| Norwegian . . | 141 | 174 | 195 | 188 | 106 |
| Japanese . . | — | 2 | 83 | 123 | 79 |
| Italian . . . | 74 | 85 | 77 | 79 | 76 |
| French . . . | 94 | 105 | 67 | 61 | 55 |

## FREIGHTS

The freight market throughout the world has been extraordinarily dull during the past twelve months. The depression was so general and the competition so keen that all special features were obliterated. Having regard to the contraction in India's export trade, it is natural that the rates quoted in Indian ports should have been from 2*s.* to 3*s.* lower than in 1907, as shown in the

following statement. The rates quoted are minimum quotations for London in March of each year; and it will be seen that in March 1909 rates were practically the same as a year before, except that the Karachi wheat quotation was 3*s.* better, while cotton from Bombay to Liverpool was 1*s.* lower:

| | | 1905 | | | 1906 | | | 1907 | | | 1908 | | | 1909 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | *s.* | *d.* | £ | *s.* | *d.* | £ | *s.* | *d.* | £ | *s.* | *d.* | £ | *s.* | *d.* |
| *Calcutta*, | Rice | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| | Wheat | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| | Jute | 1 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 0 | 17 | 6 |
| | Linseed | 1 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 0 | 17 | 6 |
| | Tea | 1 | 16 | 3 | 1 | 13 | 9 | 1 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 1 | 12 | 6 |
| *Bombay*, | Wheat and seeds | 0 | 15 | 6 | 0 | 13 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| | Cotton (to Liverpool) | 0 | 15 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| *Karachi*, | Wheat and seeds (to Liverpool) | 0 | 15 | 6 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 |

## FRONTIER TRADE

The bulk of India's Foreign Trade is seaborne, the value of the trade across the land frontiers being equal, on the average of the last three years, to about 4·8 per cent of the trade carried by sea. In this Review, it is treated as supplemental to that trade, and is not included in the main totals discussed in the earlier chapters. Although the frontier trade is relatively small and exhibits a certain decline in the year now under review, it shows on the whole a progressive tendency, part of which may be due to improved methods of registration.

The **grand total** of merchandise and treasure imported and exported in successive years is shown in the statement below. It will be seen that in 1908-09 the total was greater by R193·92 lakhs (£1,292,800) than the average of the previous five years, but less by R29·18 lakhs (£194,500) than in 1907-08. The decline on the period of twelve months was therefore less than 2 per cent.

| | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1903-04 | 10,98,81,553 = | 7,325,437 |
| 1904-05 | 12,16,15,211 | 8,107,680 |
| 1905-06 | 13,72,04,999 | 9,146,999 |
| 1906-07 | 14,13,90,673 | 9,426,045 |
| 1907-08 | 15,54,10,102 | 10,360,674 |
| 1908-09 | 15,24,92,089 | 10,166,132 |

Excluding treasure, we give below the figures relating to **merchandise only** and their distribution according to frontiers and principal countries, **the unit being 1,000**:

| | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| N.-W. Frontier | Persia | 5,39 = | 36 | 9,91 = | 66 | 9,55 = | 64 |
| | Afganistan – Southern and Western | 1,15,78 | 772 | 1,17,11 | 781 | 1,14,43 | 763 |
| | Afganistan – Northern and Eastern | 93,74 | 625 | 98,62 | 657 | 85,78 | 572 |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur | 1,19,03 | 793 | 1,29,53 | 863 | 1,12,42 | 749 |
| | Ladakh | 7,67 | 51 | 11,06 | 74 | 2,73 | 18 |
| N. and N.-E. Frontier | Nepal | 4,35,70 | 2,905 | 4,93,08 | 3,287 | 5,08,64 | 3,391 |
| | Sikkim and Bhutan | 25,96 | 173 | 22,17 | 148 | 22,69 | 151 |
| | Tibet | 35,06 | 234 | 40,21 | 268 | 39,78 | 265 |
| Eastern Frontier | Western China | 53,42 | 356 | 57,97 | 386 | 59,12 | 394 |
| | North Shan States | 1,09,38 | 729 | 1,45,65 | 971 | 1,53,99 | 1,027 |
| | South Shan States | 1,05,29 | 702 | 1,20,96 | 806 | 1,11,73 | 745 |
| | North Siam | 33,50 | 223 | 37,85 | 252 | 35,99 | 239 |
| | South Siam | 10,14 | 68 | 10,40 | 69 | 12,69 | 85 |
| | Karennee | 24,91 | 166 | 20,79 | 139 | 18,31 | 122 |

NORTH-WESTERN FRONTIER

**Persia**—The rebate of freight granted by certain Indian railways upon goods for Persia was in force during the year under review, and has been extended for a further period of three years. But there has been in operation a number of unfavourable conditions; and it is satisfactory to notice that the decline of R36,000 (£2,400) represents only about 4 per cent on the figures of the previous year. The principal imports were, as usual, **silk manufactures;** but the decline in these continued, the total being R1,25,602 (£8,373) as compared with R1,47,012 (£9,801) in 1907-08. On the other hand the land imports of **precious stones and pearls unset,** which had vanished in 1906-07 and has been negligible in 1907-08, reappeared with a value of R35,389 (£2,359) as compared with the R46.500(£3,100) recorded three years ago. **Cotton manufactures** were formerly the chief item of export; but the value declined from R2,70,428 (£18,029) to R1,84,455 (£12,297); while **leather** assumed the first place with R2,02,421 (£13,495) in place of R1,25,435 (£8,362). **Indigo,** which had rallied in 1907-08 to a total of R1,56,067 (£10,404), fell away to R1,04,015 (£6,934).

**Afghanistan**—Both imports and exports declined, the former from R96·53 lakhs (£643,500) to R85·57 lakhs (£570,400) and the latter from R118·54 lakhs (£790,200) to R114·6 lakhs (£764,000). The resultwas a total of R200·21 lakhs (£1,334,000) in place of R215·07 lakhs (£1,433,800), the difference being one of R15 lakhs (£100,000) or 7 per cent. The total trade with **Kabul** fell from R98,62,145 (£657,400) to R85,77,764 (£571,800), which marks a decline of R12,84,381 (£85,625) or 13 per cent. **Imports** from Kabul, with a total of R30 lakhs (£200,000) in place of R32·85 lakhs (£219,000), declined by R2·85 lakhs (£19,000) or 9 per cent. Among imports from Kabul, the principal item, namely, **fruits and nuts,** amounted to R11·75 lakhs (£78,300) in place of R11·8 lakhs (£78,600) in 1907-08; but **Hides and skins** fell away from R4·01 lakhs (£26,700) to R1·38 lakhs (£9,200). On the other hand **ghi** (clarified butter) advanced to R3·97 lakhs (£26,400) as compared with R3·55 lakhs (£23,600) in the previous year. **Drugs** and **medicines** had a value of only R2·74 lakhs (£18,200) in place of R3·28 lakhs (£21,900). **Live animals** fell from R1·83 lakhs (£12,200) to R1·34 lakhs (£8,900), and **wool** from R1·64 lakhs (£10,900) to R1·09 lakhs (£7,200). Among **exports** to Kabul, **cotton manufactures** retain the first place, but with totals in all cases diminished. **Foreign yarns** fell from R3·12 lakhs (£20,800) to R2·4 lakhs (£16,000) and **Indian yarns** from R1·43 lakhs (£9,500) to R98,680 (£6,579); while the decline in **foreign piece-goods,** which had reduced the total to R31·76 lakhs (£211,700) in 1907-08, continued and brought it in 1908-09 to R27·17 lakhs (£181,000), **Indian piece-goods** sharing the depression and falling from R8·69 lakhs (£57,900) to R5·09 lakhs (£33,900). Thus **cotton manufactures** account for a total contraction of R9·35 lakhs (£62,300) and the other principal articles show the same downward tendency. **Sugar** declined from R2·37 lakhs (£15,800) to R2·23 lakhs (£14,800), **metal and manufacture of metals** from R2·28 lakhs(£15,200) to R1·95 lakhs (£13,000), and **Tea** from R3·76 lakhs (£25,000) to R2·84 lakhs (£18,900). **Indian tea** represented 76 per cent of the total value and declined from R2,07,434 (£13,829) to R1,67,698 (£11,180); while **foreign tea** fell from R1,68,328 (£11,222) to R1,15,966 (£7,731). In Indian tea therefore the decline was 20 per cent, while that in Foreign tea amounted to 31 per cent. The average value of the Indian tea was 4·9 annas (or pence) per pound, and that for foreign tea was 11·19 annas (or pence) per

pound. In this quarter, the trade in **leather goods** responded to the lower prices and increased from R1·79 lakhs (£11,900) to R2·88 lakhs (£19,200). The total trade with **Kandahar** amounted to R114·43 lakhs (£762,800) as compared with R116·45 lakhs (£776,300) in 1907-08. The **imports** from Kandahar were represented by R55·67 lakhs (£370,100) in place of R63·68 lakhs (£424,500) in the previous year. Of this **wool** represents R31·76 lakhs (£211,700) as against R33·34 lakhs (£222,200) in 1907-03, while **Fruits and nuts** figure at R13·8 lakhs (£92,000) as compared with R16·87 lakhs (£112,500) in the previous year. **Gram and pulse** at R1·89 lakhs (£12,600) and **Ghi** at R1·33 lakhs (£8,800) both show ill in comparison with the respective figures of R2·32 lakhs (£15,400) and R2·29 lakhs (£15,200) recorded twelve months ago. **Exports** to Kandahar recorded a further advance from R52·77 lakhs (£351,800) to R58·76 lakhs (£391,700), the increase being attributable entirely to **foreign piece-goods**. These exhibit the only substantial increase that is to be recorded the figures being R30·62 lakhs (£204,000) as compared with R22·4 lakhs (£149,300) in 1907-08. But against this increase of R8·22 lakhs (£54,800) is to be set a decline of R1·46 lakhs (£9,700) in **Indian cotton goods**, which fell from R10·04 lakhs (£66,900) to R8·58 lakhs (£57,200). **Sugar** increased from R2·61 lakhs (£17,400) to R2·98 lakhs (£19,800); but **leather goods** for Kandahar fell away from R2·77 lakhs (£18,400) to R2·12 lakhs (£14,000).

**Dir, Swat, and Bajaur**—The total trade with these territories amounted to R112·42 lakhs (£749,400) in place of R129·53 lakhs (£863, 500) in 1907-08. The **imports**, which had in two successive years advanced to R58·54 lakhs (£390,000), receded to R45·87 lakhs (£305,800), the shrinkage being one of R12·67 lakhs (£84,400). *Ghi*, which forms some 30 per cent of the whole, accounts for R5·9 lakhs (£39,300) of this contraction and fell from R19·64 lakhs (£130,900) to R13·74 lakhs (£91,600). Imports of **grain** at R14·58 lakhs (£97,200) showed a marked drop from R20 lakhs (£133,000) of the previous year, and consisted mainly of husked rice (R6·39 lakhs = £42,600) and unhusked rice (R2·45 lakhs = £16,300). The arrivals of **hides and skins** fell back to R5·27 lakhs (£35,000) from R8·28 lakhs (£55,200) recorded a year before; while **timber** recovered to R3·98 lakhs (£26,500) from R2·62 lakhs (£17,400) to which it had fallen in 1907-08. On the other hand, the **exports** to these countries declined from R70·99 lakhs (£473,000) to R66·56 lakhs (£443,700) the principal item —namely **cotton piece-goods**—having fallen from R37·68 lakhs (£251,200) to R32·61 lakhs (£217,400). Of this, R23·54 lakhs (£156, 900) represented foreign goods, and R9·07 lakhs (£60,400) was of Indian origin. **Twist and yarn** amounted to the same total as was recorded two years ago, namely, R8·87 lakhs (£59,000), of which R6·24 lakhs (£41,600) was foreign and R2·63 lakhs (£17,500) Indian; while **salt** had a value of R3·63 lakhs (£24,200), **raw cotton** R2·53 lakhs (£16,800), and **sugar** R2·73 lakhs (£18,200). Exports of **tea** amounted to R1·31 lakhs (£8,700) in place of R1·11 lakhs (£7,400) in the previous year. Indian tea, with a total of 168,784 lbs and R61,500 (£4,100), showed a quantitative advance on the 166,880 lbs of the previous year but a substantial loss of value as compared with R64,992 (£4,333) then recorded. Foreign tea increased from 75,936 lbs to 113,792 lbs and from R46,200 (£3,080) to R69,250 (£4,617). All the tea exported was green tea, but the proportion of Indian tea in the whole has fallen to 46 per cent in place of 59 per cent in the previous year, while its average value is returned as 5·8 annas (or pence) per pound as compared with an average of 9·7 annas (or pence) in the case of the foreign parcels.

**Ladakh**—Ladakh is a junction for trade between India and Western Tibet on the one hand and Yarkand and Kashgar on the other. Trade with Ladakh is of a small volume; and the year under review showed a decline of R1·63 lakhs (£10,800) or 37 per cent, the total value being R2·73 lakhs (£18,200) against R4·36 lakhs (£29,000) in the previous year. *Imports* decreased from R3·07 (£20,400) to R1·36 lakhs (£9,000), while *exports* improved from R1·29 lakhs (£8,600) to R1·37 lakhs (£9,000). *Charas* represents nearly 61 per cent of the total imports, but it decreased from 1,540 cwts and R1 68 lakhs (£11,200) to 932 cwts and R83,000 (£5,533). Imports of **raw silk** amounted to only 50 cwts with a value of R30,000 (£2,000). On this, as on other frontiers, **cotton piece-goods** (almost entirely foreign) continue to form the chief item of exportation; and of these Ladakh took 25 per cent more in quantity and 37 per cent more in value than in the previous year, the value being R77,170 (£5,145).

## NORTHERN AND NORTH-EASTERN FRONTIER

Nepal and Tibet are the only two States or countries on this frontier which can be said to have any trade of importance with India.

**Nepal.**—The trade with Nepal increased from R493·07 lakhs (£3,287,000) in 1907-08 to R508·64 lakhs (£3,390,900) in 1908-09. The *imports* at R341·48 lakhs (£2,276,000) were almost the same as in the previous year; while *exports*, which expanded from R151·75 lakhs (£1,011,600) to R167·16 lakhs (£1,114,400), account for almost the whole of the increase. In the year under review, the trade with Nepal represented 37 per cent of the whole frontier trade of India as against 36 per cent in 1907-08. The principal articles of trade and their values on the last two years are shown in the subjoined table:

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Imports to India*— | | | | |
| Rice | 85,32,788 | 568,852 | 71,52,035 | 476,802 |
| Paddy | 62,50,294 | 416,686 | 51,30,059 | 342,004 |
| Wheat | 2,11,438 | 14,096 | 2,51,777 | 16,785 |
| Cattle | 20,64,081 | 137,605 | 33,41,589 | 222,773 |
| Linseed | 8,95,869 | 59,725 | 12,07,939 | 80,529 |
| Rape and mustard | 26,38,315 | 175,888 | 26,23,134 | 174,876 |
| Ghi | 26,27,476 | 175,165 | 22,55,690 | 150,379 |
| Jute, raw | 19,99,890 | 133,326 | 20,95,364 | 139,691 |
| Hides and skins | 12,29 054 | 81,937 | 16,36,754 | 109,117 |
| Spices | 11,06,983 | 73,799 | 8,56,098 | 57,073 |
| *Exports from India*— | | | | |
| Cotton piece-goods | 50,32,745 | 335,516 | 57,34,521 | 382,301 |
| „ twist and yarn | 16,60,806 | 110,720 | 16,65,429 | 111,029 |
| Metals | 13,05,307 | 87,020 | 14,78,579 | 98,572 |
| Salt | 10,99,774 | 73,318 | 9,01,977 | 60,132 |
| Spices | 11,44,529 | 76,302 | 10,78,189 | 71,879 |
| Sugar | 8,45,800 | 56,387 | 8,05,478 | 53,699 |

Among the major articles of *import*, the only ones that show increases are linseed, cattle, raw jute, and hides and skins; while rice and paddy, which hold the premier place, both show considerable declines. These two items, which in the previous year represented some 48 per cent of the total imports, have fallen to 20 per cent. They account for a drop of 25 lakhs (£166,600), the fall in quantity being 11 per cent and that in value amounted to 13 per cent. The total quantity imported fell from 2,837,000 to 2,546,000 cwts. Rape and mus-

tard seed show little change, while linseed marks an advance. The imports of cattle from Nepal into Bengal represent 79 per cent of the total imports of cattle by land into India ; and the number and value expanded in 1908-09 from 48,382 with a value of R19,23,000 (£128,200) to 115,196 with a value of R32,53,000 (£216,867). The expansion was greater in number than in value, the average price per head having subsided from R39 (£2 12*s.*) to R28 (£1-17-4). Nepal is the only country from which India imports jute; and of recent years the production has increased. The importation in the year under review has expanded by 5·4 per cent in quantity (that is, from 277,155 to 292,272 cwts) and by 4·7 per cent in value, the average declared values in the last two years being R7 3 annas (9*s.* 7*d.*) and R7 2 annas (9*s.* 6*d.*) per cwt respectively. Imports of oilseeds improved by 8 per cent in value. Besides the articles enumerated above, there are several of which the value is considerable, as for example railway materials and dyes of R4·19 lakhs (£27,900) and R2·77 lakhs (£18,400) respectively, and timber of R6·7 lakhs (£44,600).

The *exports* to Nepal increased from R151·75 lakhs (£1,011,600) to R167·16 lakhs (£1,114,400). Cotton piecegoods, as usual, head the list; and in this department there is a substantial increase of about R7 lakhs (£46,000). Yarns, which are mostly of foreign origin, showed a small improvement; and the value of metal exports increased by R1·73 lakhs (£11,500). Salt declined by R1·98 lakhs (£13,200) or 18 per cent in value; and spices and sugar also are on a lower level than in the previous year.

**Sikkim and Bhutan**—The trade with **Sikkim** continued to increase and advanced from R16·21 lakhs (£108,000) to R17·03 lakhs (£113,500), while the decline in trade with **Bhutan** is also progressive, the total having fallen from R5·96 lakhs (£39,700) to R5·66 lakhs (£37,700). The two together showed a net improvement of some R52,000 (£3,467) or 2·3 per cent. Sikkim supplied **grain** to the value of R5·19 lakhs (£34,600) as against R3·89 lakhs (£25,900) in the previous year, while her trade in **fruit**, etc., fell from R1·42 lakhs (£9,500) to R51,000 (£3,400). The greater part of *import* from **Bhutan** consists of **timber**; and this, at R22,250 (£1,483), showed small advance on the figures of 1907-08, while her contribution of **fruits**, etc., had fallen from R67,150 (£4,477) to R46,211 (£3,081). The *exports to Bhutan* developed slightly, the total value being R2·66 lakhs (£17,700) as compared with R2·54 lakhs (£16,900) in 1907-08. Of these, the most important item was cotton **piecegoods and yarn** (chiefly the former and of foreign manufacture) with a value of R1·03 lakhs (£6,800), **silk manufactures** R37,000 (£2,467), and spices R28,000 (£1,800). The exports to **Sikkim** on the other hand receded from R7·98 lakhs (£53,200) to R7·61 a hs (£50,700) and consisted chiefly of **grain** R1·82 lakhs (£12,000), **cotton piecegoods** and **yarn** (chiefly the former) with a value of R1·47 lakhs (£9,800), and **salt** R34,000 (£2,267).

**Tibet**—Trade with Tibet has to contend with various difficulties, the most obvious of which relates to communications. It had shown some development in 1907-08, but in 1908-09 its value declined from R40·21 lakhs (£268,000) to R39·78 lakhs (£265,200), the decrease being R43,000 (£2,867). The trade consists of 44 per cent exports and 56 per cent imports. The net contraction in 1908-09 is more than accounted for by the latter. *Exports* to Tibet increased by about 3 per cent (from R16·88 lakhs=£112,500 to R17·42 lakhs=£116,000), the principal articles being as usual **otton piecegoods** with a value of R4·5 lakhs (£30,000) in place of R4 lakhs (£26,600) in the previous year and **yarn** with a value of R35,506 (£2,367) as compared with R59,455 (£3,964). Other

articles of relative importance were **grain** to the value of R2·46 lakhs (£16,400) in place of R2·61 lakhs (£17,400) (38 per cent of this being rice), **coral** R1·44 lakhs (£9,600), **woollen manufactures** R2·36 lakhs (£15,700), and **metals** R51,000 (£3,400). *Imports* declined from R23·32 lakhs (£155,400) to R22·35 lakhs (£149,000), the decrease being R97,000 (£6,467) or 4 per cent. The staple of this trade is **wool**, and it showed a decline of 4·8 per cent in quantity (from 51,348 to 48,828 cwts) and 4·5 per cent in value from R14·79 lakhs (£98,600) to R14·12 lakhs (£94,000). Other principal articles were : **borax** R2·67 lakhs (£17,800), **salt** R97,000 (£6,400), and **horses, ponies, and mules,** only R30,000 (£2,000) in place of R52,000 (£3,467) recorded in the previous year.

## EASTERN FRONTIER

**Western China**—The trade with Western China really means the trade of Bhamo with Tengyueh in Yunnan. Its expansion continues, and the total value increased from R57·97 lakhs (£386,400) to R59·11 lakhs (£394,000). *Imports* represent 29 per cent of the whole and declined from R16·95 lakhs (£113,000) to R16·86 lakhs (£112,400) ; while *Exports* increased by 3 per cent. Among imports **Raw silk** fell away from R3·91 lakhs (£26,000) to R3·68 lakhs (£24,500). Imports of **opium** amounted to R1·51 lakhs (£10,000) as in the previous year. **Hides** of cattle decreased from R3·15 lakhs (£21,000) to R2·14 lakhs (£14,200) and **lac** from R72,000 (£4,800) to R38,000 (£2,533) ; while imports of **orpiment** increased from R1·44 lakhs (£9,600) to R1·64 lakhs (£10,900) and **live animals** from R2·22 lakhs (£14,800) to R2·39 lakhs (£15,900). Exports to Western China increased from R41·02 lakhs (£273,400) to R42·26 lakhs (£281,700). Of this sum **cotton yarns** (all of Indian manufacture) formed 46 per cent as against 53 per cent in the previous year, their value having fallen from R21·75 lakhs (£145,000) to R19·65 lakhs (£131,000). On the other hand, **cotton piece goods** (all of foreign manufacture) advanced from R5·11 lakhs (£34,000) to R9·92 lakhs (£66,000). The other principal items of export were **raw cotton** R2·75 lakhs (£18,300), **jadestone** R1·98 lakhs (£13,200), **provisions** R2·16 lakhs (£14,400), and **salt** R1·36 lakhs (£9,000). Exports of **petroleum** decreased by 21 per cent and fell back from R57,000 (£3,800) to R45,000 (£3,000).

**Shan States (North and South)**—These States are British territory under local Chiefs ; but for convenience of registration they are treated as foreign, and two-thirds of the trade across the Eastern statistical frontier relates to them. The trade as a whole decreased by R90,000 (£6,000), that is to say, from R266·61 lakhs (£1,777,400) to R265·72 lakhs (£1,771,400). Of this total 54 per cent or R142·73 lakhs (£951,500) consisted of exports and 46 per cent or R122·99 lakhs (£819,900) of imports. The total trade with the Northern Shan States improved by R8·33 lakhs (£55,500) to R153·99 lakhs (£1,026,600), while that with the Southern Shan States fell off by R9·23 lakhs (£61,500) to R111·73 lakhs (£744,800). The trade with the **Northern Shan States** consists of R81·12 lakhs (£540,800) imports and R72·86 lakhs (£485,700) exports. *Imports* showed a total increase of R12·05 lakhs (£80,300) or 17 per cent, to which contributions were made by **leaf-tea** with R12·42 lakhs (£82,800) against R10·06 lakhs (£67,000), **teak** with R10·49 lakhs (£69,900) against R7·25 lakhs (£48,300), and **husked rice** with R10·26 lakhs (£68,400) against R8·31 lakhs (£55,400) ; while **lac** declined from R1·74 lakhs (£11,600) to R1·23 lakhs (£8,200) and *letpet* (pickled tea) from R23·86 lakhs (£159,000) to R23·59 lakhs (£157,200). The *Exports* consisted mainly of **cotton**

**piecegoods** (almost entirely foreign) with a value of R21·52 lakhs (£143,000) as against R16·99 lakhs (£113,000) in 1907-08, **yarn** (mostly foreign) R11·39 lakhs (£75,900) against R10 lakhs (£66,600), **provisions** (of which seven-eighths was fish) R11·14 lakhs (£74,200) against R8·88 lakhs (£59,200), **salt** R3·63 lakhs (£24,200) against R3·2 lakhs (£21,300), **iron** R2·03 lakhs (£13,500) against R3·4 lakhs (£22,600), **ive animals** R2·86 lakhs (£19,000) against R2·62 lakhs (£17,400), and **opium** R7,500 (£500) as compared with R52,500 (£3,500) in 1907-08, one lakh (£6,667) in 1906-07, and two and a half lakhs (£16,667) in 1905-06.

Trade with the **Southern Shan States** on the other hand consisted of R41·86 lakhs (£279,000) imports and R69·87 lakhs (£465,800) exports, as compared with R46·63 lakhs (£310,800) and R74·34 lakhs (£495,600) in the previous year. *Imports* showed a decline of R4·77 lakhs (£31,800). **Teak** at R5·62 lakhs (£37,400), **potatoes** at R2·42 lakhs (£16,100), and **hides** at R79,000 (£5,267) all showed decline, while there was improvement in **cattle** with R6·48 lakhs (£43,200), **horses, ponies, and mules** with R2·47 lakhs (£16,400) and **fruits and vegetables** (other than potatoes) with R5 lakhs (£33,333). *Exports* declined by an almost equal amount, namely R4·47 lakhs (£29,800). The most important article again is **cotton piece goods** (mainly foreign), the value of which increased from R33·74 lakhs (£224,900) to R35·66 lakhs (£237,700), which is 51 per cent of the whole exports. Among other items the following showed minute increases: **betelnuts** with R3·63 lakhs (£24,200) in place of R3·62 lakhs (£24,000), and **yarn** (mostly Indian) with R2·53 lakhs (£16,800) in place of R2,52 lakhs (£16,800), while decreases occurred in **provisions** (principally fish) with R6·1 lakhs (£40,600), **manufactured silks** with R3·56 lakhs (£23,700), and **metals** with R1·72 lakhs (£11,400) of which iron constituted about one lakh (£6,667).

**North and South Siam**—The total trade with these two territories amounted to R48·68 lakhs (£324,500), as compared with R48·24 lakhs (£321,600) in 1907-08. The trade with **North Siam** is three times as great as that with South Siam. It amounts to nearly R36 lakhs (£240,000) and shows a decrease of about R2 lakhs (£13,333) on the figure for the previous year. It consists of 53 per cent imports and 47 per cent exports. The *Imports* declined from R20·04 lakhs (£133,600) to R18·84 lakhs (£125,600), for lower amounts were recorded not only for **teak** with R12·83 lakhs (£85,500) in place of R13·03 lakhs (£86,800), but for **cattle** at R5·04 lakhs (£33,600) and for other **live animals** at only R34,000 (£2,267). The *Exports* showed a smaller decrease from R17·81 lakhs (£118,700) to R17·15 lakhs (£114,300). **Cotton piece goods** (almost all foreign) increased from R3·56 lakhs (£23,700) to R3·76 lakhs (£25,000), while **manufactured silk** dropped from R3·47 lakhs (£23,100) to R2·33 lakhs (£15,500). **Yarns** (mostly foreign) with an increased value of R3·28 lakhs (£21,800) also exceeded that of **silks**, while **apparel** declined from R2·36 lakhs (£15,700) to R2·18 lakhs (£14,500). Trade with **South Siam** amounted to R12·69 lakhs (£84,600), which is about R2 lakhs (£13,333) better than in 1907-08. It consists of 61 per cent imports and 39 per cent exports. *Imports* rose from R4·93 lakhs (£32,800) to R7·8 lakhs (£52,000) and were, practically, made up of **manufactured silk** at R5·02 lakhs (£33,400) and **live animals** at R2·62 lakhs (£17,400). *Exports* at R4·89 lakhs (£32,600) showed a decline, the only considerable items being **manufactured silk** with a value of R82,000 (£5,467), **apparel** with a value of R81,000 (£5,400), and **chinaware** R77,000 (£5,133).

**Karennee**—The trade with Karennee is less than R20 lakhs (£133,333) and shows continuous decline, amounting in the year under review to 14 per cent. It consists of 85 per cent imports and 15 per cent exports. The *imports* declined from R16·81 lakhs (£112,000) to R15·41 lakhs (£102,700), and consisted mainly of **teak** with a value of R13·81 lakhs (£92,000). Among *exports* the only considerable item was **betelnuts** R1·19 lakhs (£7,900).

The relative importance of the various articles of trade in the commerce of India with transfrontier countries is shown below. The values are stated in **units of 1,000**—

| | *Imports* | | | | | *Exports* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
| | R | £ | R | £ | | R | £ | R | £ |
| Cattle | 33,23= | 222 | 47,59= | 317 | Cotton | 8,60= | 57 | 7,02= | 47 |
| Other animals | 21,68 | 145 | 29,35 | 195 | Cotton yarn— | | | | |
| Drugs and medicines (including *charas*) | 20,58 | 137 | 10,39 | 69 | Foreign | 36,11 | 241 | 36,31 | 242 |
| Fibrous products (chiefly jute) | 25,97 | 173 | 26,95 | 180 | Indian | 34,07 | 227 | 31,56 | 210 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 44,52 | 297 | 41,99 | 280 | Cotton goods— | | | | |
| Grain and pulse (chiefly rice) | 2,05,16 | 1,368 | 1,84,35 | 1,229 | Foreign | 1,85,70 | 1,238 | 2,09,34 | 1,396 |
| Hides and skins | 33,66 | 224 | 31,21 | 208 | Indian | 52,57 | 350 | 48,55 | 324 |
| Ghi (clarified butter) | 57,40 | 383 | 45,27 | 302 | Grain and pulse | 14,17 | 94 | 17,78 | 119 |
| Pickled tea | 23,87 | 159 | 23,62 | 157 | Metals (mainly brass, copper, and iron) | 27,44 | 183 | 28,57 | 190 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rapeseed) | 44,75 | 298 | 46,63 | 311 | Oils | 17,13 | 114 | 18,68 | 125 |
| Silk | 10,95 | 73 | 11,35 | 76 | Provisions | 26,83 | 179 | 29,01 | 193 |
| Spices | 13,99 | 93 | 12,94 | 86 | Salt | 23,53 | 157 | 21,30 | 142 |
| Wood and timber (chiefly teak) | 59,78 | 398 | 59,95 | 400 | Silkgoods | 14,07 | 94 | 9,52 | 63 |
| Wool | 56,54 | 377 | 54,07 | 360 | Spices | 22,15 | 148 | 23,57 | 157 |
| Woollen goods | 2,45 | 16 | 1,82 | 12 | Sugar | 19,69 | 131 | 20,43 | 136 |
| | | | | | Tea | 7,20 | 48 | 6,69 | 45 |
| | | | | | Tobacco | 11,13 | 74 | 13,12 | 87 |

Since the total value of imports in 1908-09 was R8·29 crores (£5,527,000), the centesimal ratio borne to that total by any of the above sums of Indian money may be found approximately by dividing it by 830. In exports the divisor would be 696.

The appended statement shows **in thousand** the measure in which the various provinces participated in the total of the trans-frontier commerce. Here the divisor for 1908-09 must be 1,525.

| | 1904-05 | | 1905-06 | | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Sind and British Baluchistan | 1,04,90= | 699 | 1,12,02= | 747 | 1,41,30= | 942 | 1,53,96= | 1,026 | 1,44,88= | 966 |
| North-West Frontier Province | 2,35,00 | 1,569 | 2,30,61 | 1,537 | 2,52,03 | 1,680 | 2,68,05 | 1,787 | 2,61,35 | 1,742 |
| Panjab | 17,15 | 114 | 10,69 | 71 | 11,04 | 74 | 13,77 | 92 | 6,10 | 41 |
| United Provinces of Agra and Oudh | 1,64,75 | 1,098 | 1,94,65 | 1,298 | 1,81,29 | 1,209 | 1,87,82 | 1,252 | 1,97,57 | 1,317 |
| Bengal | 2,86,04 | 1,907 | 3,81,44 | 2,543 | 3,23,73 | 2,158 | 3,88,91 | 2,593 | 3,90,84 | 2,606 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam | 4,89 | 33 | 5,09 | 34 | 16,63 | 111 | 7,68 | 51 | 6,85 | 46 |
| Burma | 4,03,42 | 2,689 | 4,37,55 | 2,917 | 4,87,88 | 3,253 | 5,33,90 | 3,559 | 5,17,33 | 3,449 |

## COASTING TRADE

Merchandise shipped from one part of India to another appears first under exports and again under imports, so it might be expected that the total of the

two would be approximately double the dimensions of the single transaction. But half of the sum of the total exports and total imports under Coasting Trade would not represent even approximately the true scope of the trade, for the figures comprise such exchanges with ports in Indian Native States and Foreign Settlements as appear in the statistics of British India only as imports or as exports. It has therefore been the practice to state in this Review the net value of the coasting trade as arrived at by adding, to the value of the imports into British ports from other British ports, the sum of the imports and exports in the trade between British and non-British ports in India. The value so calculated in respect of 1908-09 is, for **merchandise**, R57·65 crores (£38,433,000) as against R58·8 crores (£39,200,000) in the previous year, the decrease being R1·15 crores (£766,000) or 2 per cent. **Food grains** represented 29·3 per cent of the total with a value of R16·9 crores (£11,267,000), the increase being R1·32 crores (£880,000). Of the total value of food grains, **rice** represented 80·4 per cent. Details regarding the distribution of this trade are given in that article in the section relating to exports which deals with the rice trade as a whole. It need only be mentioned here that the total exports from Burma to Indian ports amounted to 1,157,000 tons which marks an increase of 178,000 tons on the figures of the previous year. The exports of **mineral oil** from Burma to Indian ports declined from 72 to 70·5 million gallons. The quantity taken by Calcutta for distribution by sea to other ports decreased from 37·4 to 35·2 million gallons, the direct shipments from Burma to other provinces being: —Bombay 10·9 million gallons, Madras 10·9 millions, Eastern Bengal and Assam 7·9 millions, and Sind 2·9 millions. In regard to mineral oil also, details are given in the appropriate part of the section relating to exports. Burma's predominance as a source of rice and mineral oil for Indian consumption makes her total coasting exports equal to 41·5 per cent of the coasting exports of all British India. The coastal exports of **jute bags** from Calcutta decreased in value from R235·5 lakhs (£1,570,000) to R191·6 lakhs (£1,277,000) and in quantity from 80 to 75 million bags. Of these Bombay took 18·6 million bags, Burma 37·8 million bags, Madras 10·5 millions, and Sind 7 millions. The expansion in the coastal shipments of **Bengal coal** was one of 248,000 tons, bringing the total to 2,461,000 tons. Shipments of Indian-made cotton **piece goods** from the Bombay Presidency to other parts of India had in the previous year amounted to 239 million yards with a value of R387·6 lakhs (£2,584,000); but the year under review was a bad one both on account of the poverty of the crops and because it was regarded as inauspicious for certain ceremonies conducive to trade in cloth. The total therefore declined to 211·9 million yards with a value of R352·7 lakhs (£2,351,000), the decrease being 27 million yards or 11·3 per cent in quantity and R34·9 lakhs (£232,000) or 9 per cent in value. The apparent increase of 2·4 per cent in average value in the presence of a general decline in prices shows that the trade in inferior description suffered heavily. The following figures show the distribution of these shipments from Bombay in the last two years, and indicate the extent to which the respective purchasing provinces curtailed their demand:

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | yds. | R | £ | yds. | R | £ |
| Bengal . | 86,119,516 | 1,53,61,431 | =1,024,095 | 62,450,735 | 1,22,05,119 | =813,674 |
| Sind . | 136,126,905 | 2,03,80,266 | 1,358,684 | 130,577,509 | 1,98,48,717 | 1,323,248 |
| Madras . | 2,871,686 | 5,12,872 | 34,191 | 2,752,556 | 5,18,526 | 34,568 |
| Burma . | 9,889,587 | 18,49,122 | 123,275 | 9,990,695 | 18,73,618 | 124,908 |

Coastal shipments of **raw cotton** from Bombay, which in the previous yea stood at 230,576 cwts and R60·92 lakhs (£406,000), decreased to 137,880 cwts and R34·33 lakhs (£228,800) in 1908-09, Bengal taking only 52,468 cwts in place of 118,977, while Kathiawar raised its demand from 20,104 to 38,760 cwts. Sind also shipped less, almost the whole of its 159,958 cwts going to Bombay, less some 2,900 cwts for Bengal.

## RAILWAY GOODS TRAFFIC

This is a valuable indicator of the volume of total trade. The following statement reflects the shortage of export crops and the contraction in import trade. It shows (*in thousand of unit*) the **ton-mileage** of goods traffic on the principal railways of India during the last five years:

| | Units | Increase + or Decrease — | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Units | | Per cent |
| 1904 | 8,969,140 | | | |
| 1905 | 9,260,752 | + 291,612 | or | + 3·2 per cent |
| 1906 | 10,052,132 | + 791,380 | ,, | + 8·5 ,, |
| 1907 | 11,103,514 | + 1,051,382 | ,, | + 10·4 ,, |
| 1908 | 10,199,399 | — 904,115 | ,, | — 8·1 ,, |

For the first time since 1896 there was a falling-off in these figures. The figures below show the number of goods wagons at work in India at the close of each of the last five years and the additions made in each year:

| | No. | Addition | | Percentage increase |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1904 | 108,509 | | | |
| 1905 | 111,370 | 2,861 | or | 2·6 |
| 1906 | 115,686 | 4,316 | ,, | 3·9 |
| 1907 | 124,094 | 8,408 | ,, | 7·3 |
| 1908 | 136,318 | 12,224 | ,, | 9·8 |

The total increase in the period of four years is therefore 25·6 per cent. Comparison of this percentage with the increase of 13·7 per cent in the ton mileage shows a decrease in the ton miles per wagon from 82,658 to 74,821, the decline being one of 9·5 per cent. But such a comparison serves no very useful purpose when the statistics discussed relate to a period so abnormal as the last year.

Reference may be made to the article dealing with imports of Railway Material.

## PRICES

**Prices**—Appended is a chart illustrating graphically the **index numbers** covering a period of 48 years from 1861 to 1908. They represent the simple averages of the variations in Indian Rupee Prices, as far as available, of 39 staple commodities imported into, exported from, and consumed in India. These variations are obtained by expressing the price of each article in each year as a percentage of the price for the year 1895, which latter price is represented by 100, and are combined in the manner explained in the margin of the chart.

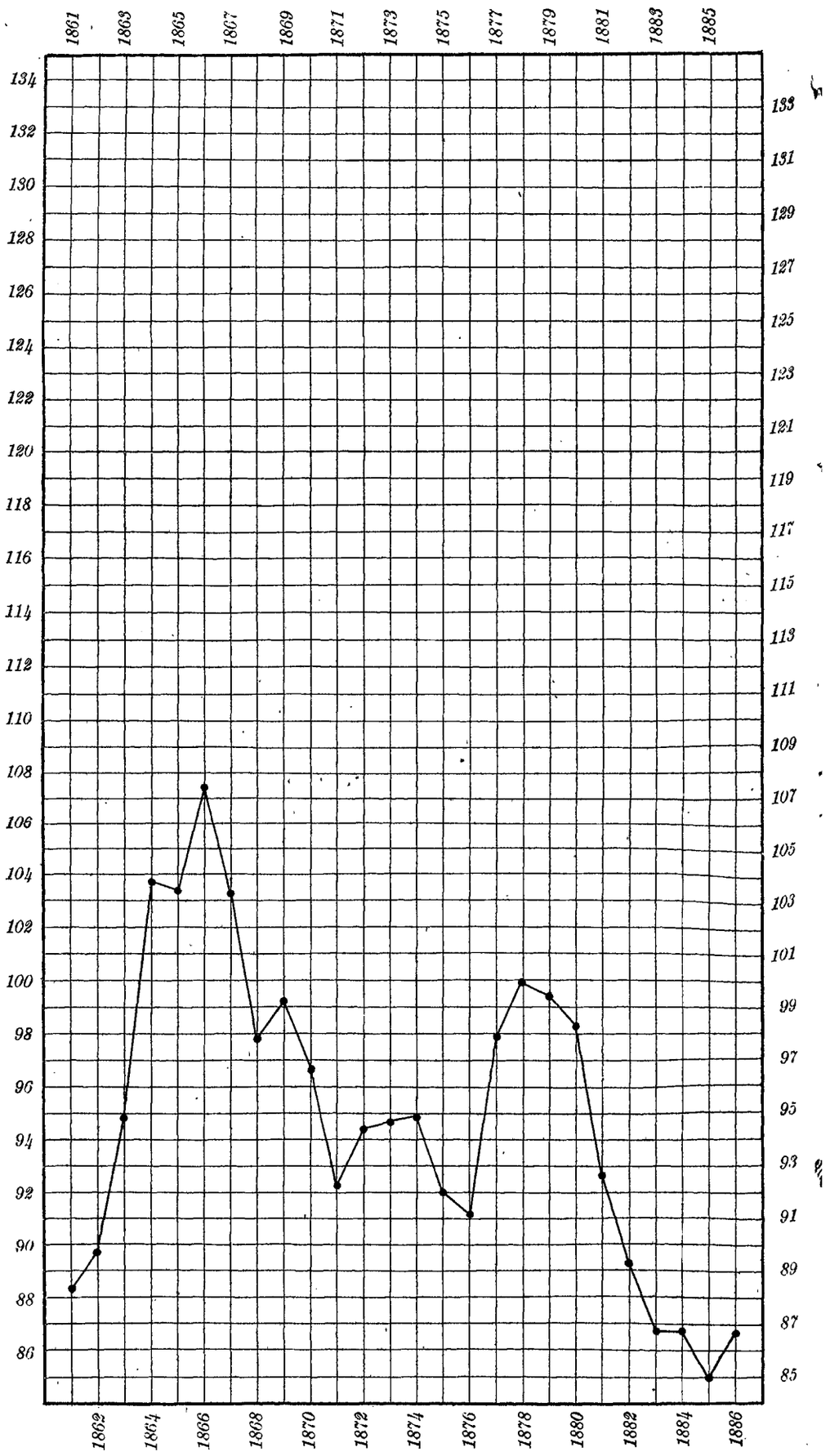
FREDERICK NOËL-PATON
*Director-General of Commercial Intelligence*

*June 23, 1909*

# VARIATIONS IN INDIAN RUPEE PRICES EXPRESSED IN INDEX NUMBERS.

## VARIATIONS IN INDIAN RUPEE PRICES EXPRESSED IN INDEX NUMBERS.

The prices for the year 1895 (when the closing of the Indian Mints to the free coinage of silver became effective), has been taken as 100 and those for each group of five years have been averaged on the system described in the note on the right hand margin.

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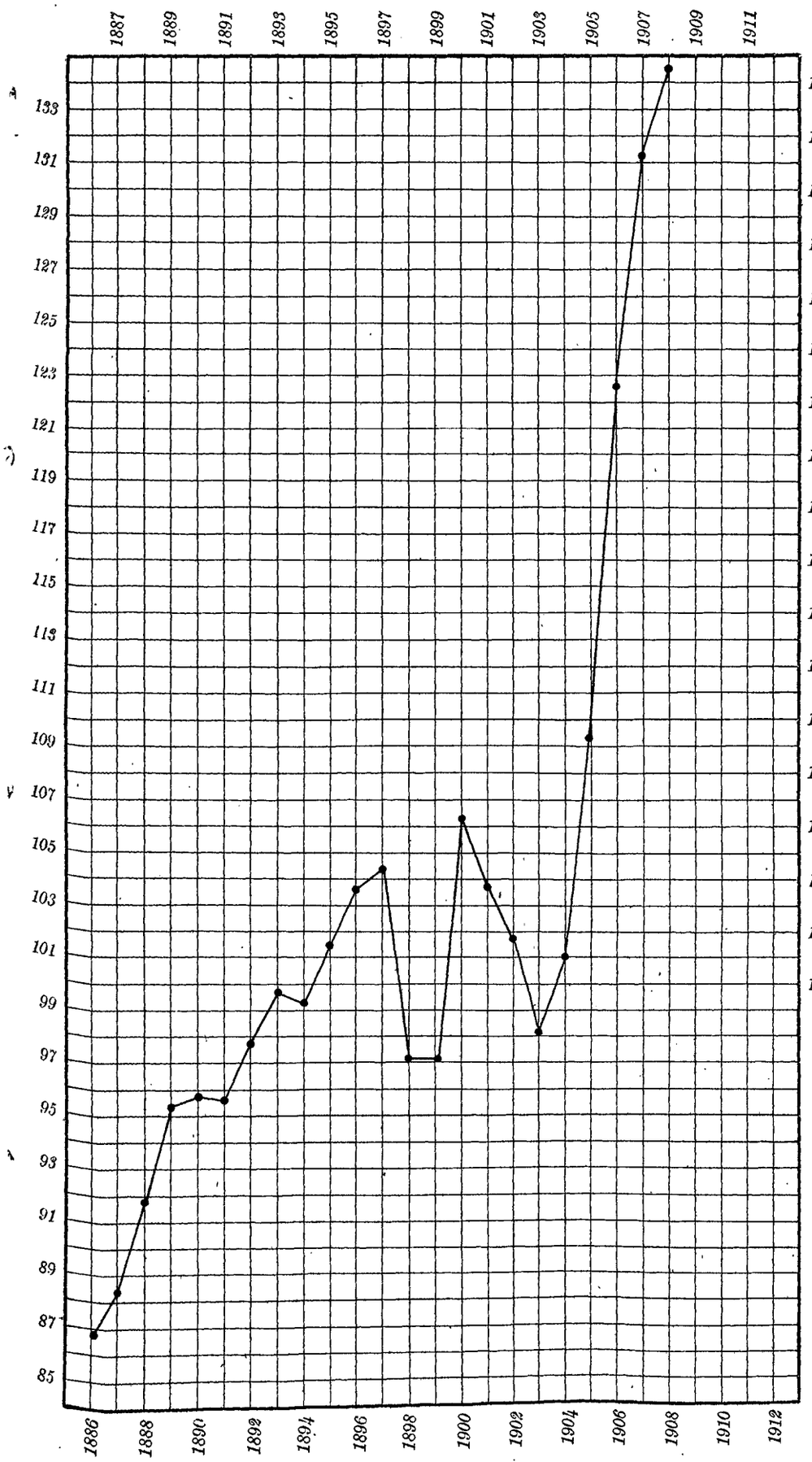


NOTE.—All figures relating to agriculture and commerce in India are subject to violent fluctuations from year to year, according as the rainfall is good or bad; and the period to which these tables relate includes several years of great scarcity. From a curve that reproduces very violent fluctuations, it is most difficult to derive any sense of the general tendency to be disclosed. For this reason it is desirable that index figures relating to Indian trade and agriculture should be taken on the average of each group of five years. The ordinary method is to set down the average for the five years as the figure for the mesial year of the group. Each such average contains only one-fifth or say 20% of the year for which it is set down, and four-fifths or 80% of the other years; and these latter are therefore dominant in its constitution. In this way it sometimes happens that the presence of say a famine year in a five years' group results in the ordinary averaged curves shewing a fall where in the actuals there was a rise. The general character of the curve is thus lost; and for these reasons the index numbers and averages in the following tables are taken on a special system adapted to Indian conditions. The actuals for the five years are added together with a further five times the actual for the mesial year. There are thus ten parts present, of which six are supplied by the mesial year; and one-tenth of this total is an average containing 60% actual. In this way the true character of the curve from year to year is retained, while a nicely smoothed curve is obtained.

# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA,

IN

# 1909-10.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

D 6

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and 32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
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E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LIMITED, BACON STREET, E.
1911.

[Cd. 5384.] *Price* 1*s.* 1*d.*

(18079—3.) Wt. 27304—200. 800. 1/11. D & S.

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# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

For the official year ending March 31, 1910

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The commercial prosperity of India is primarily contingent upon her harvests and therefore upon her export trade, but this again involves dependence to a considerable but ever increasing extent upon the conditions prevailing in international markets. The statistics for the official year 1908-09 revealed a deplorable weakness in almost every direction; and with an import market glutted, high prices of food grains, and a general feeling of insecurity created by the slow recovery of credit in Europe and America, such small improvement as was effected was unable to impress itself upon any of the trade returns. The record for the year 1909-10 marks in almost every respect an appreciable advance upon its predecessor, though it should be regarded rather as a year of further recuperation than of development, and avoiding the tendency to interpret increases of values as increases of volume, it will be found that, although all unhealthy symptoms have not yet been eliminated, India after an unusually prolonged period of trade sickness may be regarded as almost convalescent.

The beginning of the year under review happily synchronised with a marked improvement in foreign trade. The statistics for the calendar year 1909 show remarkable advances in the total value of imports into the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Belgium, and the United States of America, and except in the case of the last named, the sum of the exports is also considerably higher. In the United Kingdom business was generally good except in Lancashire, and as evidence of the improvement effected it may be noticed that the capital raised for new joint stock enterprises in London in the first quarter of 1910 amounted to nearly £100 millions. The new Tariff legislation in the United States was completed in August and has proved in several respects more favourable to the foreign importer. Amongst other events of commercial interest in other parts of the world were the prolonged coal strike in Australia in a year otherwise remarkably free from disputes between capital and labour, the Eight Hours Mines Bill, the effect of which upon the South Wales coal trade it is too early yet to forecast, the rubber and oil booms, and the new Patent and Trades Marks Acts in Japan. The persistence of depression in several quarters, however, in the face of apparently favourable conditions indicates that consumption is still well within the world's capacity of supply and the characteristic optimism of New York very nearly precipitated a crisis in April in a speculative endeavour to anticipate a boom.

In India the monsoon was exceptionally favourable in 1909 and the increase in total estimated outturn exceeded 14 per cent in the case of jute, 22 per cent in the case of cotton, 26 per cent in that of wheat, 43 per cent in the case of rice, and 24 and 44 per cent in the two principal classes of oilseeds. Some of these crops do not enter into statistical consideration in this review, but the cumulative effect is generally reflected in the returns. An extreme shortage in the visible supply of wheat was being proclaimed from the house tops in Wall Street just when an ample Indian harvest was on its way from the threshing floor to Karachi, and the contraction in the Egyptian cotton yield following unfavourable estimates of outturn from the United States came most opportunely for those who neither weave nor spin and enabled the cultivators of the

Deccan to unload upon a rapidly rising market an unusually early and abundant crop. The counter-attractions of the Manchurian soy bean were not able to make good the shortage in the Argentine crop of oilseeds, and the prices of linseed and cotton seed both advanced considerably. The Burma rice market was exceptionally brisk, the level of prices though lower being far from unremunerative, and the tea and hide trades both benefited from a larger volume of business at higher specific values. The indigo and coffee industries continue under a cloud, and though there has been some rubber exploitation during the year and though much is expected of the cultivation which has begun on the Malabar coast and in Burma particularly, it is doubtful whether India will ever achieve prominence as a producer in this field.

Regarded as a whole the export trade was unusually active, particularly in the last four months of the year, and the high prices of wheat, cotton, and oilseeds not only directly benefited the cultivators in almost every province but served to replenish automatically the stocks of gold in the country which had been depleted by the abnormal imports and the American banking crisis in 1907-08. Unfortunately the improvement in economic conditions was practically confined to raw produce in foreign markets. The high prices of cotton diverted supplies from the Bombay mills at a time when they were almost bare of stocks, and a favourable monsoon had encouraged expectation of an abundant supply of cheap raw material. The market for yarn was slow to respond to the enhanced cost of the staple and the demand for piecegoods was curiously uneven and the level of prices disappointingly low. There was one very serious failure in August and towards the close of the year the Bombay mill owners affected to be further disturbed by the prospects of Factory legislation, scarcity of labour, and the effects of the new silver duty. On the other side of India the jute industry continued to suffer from an aggravated form of prostration which was intensified by a premature abandonment in September last of the short time movement. Though the raw material was abundant and cheap, the mills complained that the large volume of business carried through was generally unremunerative, particularly for Hessians, and the trend of prices since the close of the year has been further downward. The Calcutta market was also affected by the paralysis in the Bengal coal trade, which but for the strike in New South Wales would have touched the very nadir of depression, and by the absence even of any speculative recovery in shellac from the low level of prices touched in the previous year.

In the matter of imports the record is also somewhat unsatisfactory, as in all those lines which are regarded as indices of returning industrial activity the recovery has only been partial and incomplete. The value of metals and manufactures and of all kinds of machinery has again fallen, the Railway indents were smaller, and the increasing imports of sugar from the Dutch Indies in spite of the rise in prices are hardly a matter for congratulation when the acreage under cane in India largely exceeds that of any other country in the world. The fall in values in 1908 had left considerable stocks of depreciated piecegoods in the Indian market, particularly in Bombay and Madras, and so long as these remained unassimilated buyers were encouraged to hold out for prices, which, having regard to the present values of raw material, were altogether unremunerative to importers who were also faced with increased competition on the part of local manufacturers in certain prominent lines.

As regards the future, present conditions augur further trade improvement in Europe and America in the next twelve months, but for India the restoration of industrial activity, and the development of those internal exchanges, which have been so conspicuously in defect during the last three years, can only be assured by a continuance of general agricultural prosperity.

*This Map of India is intended to illustrate the principal sources of specific products. The principal areas of production of the staple crops of British India, namely rice, wheat, oilseeds, sugarcane, tea, coffee, cotton, and jute are indicated by hatchings—horizontal, vertical and diagonal—in two colours, black and red; and the location of the principal coal-fields is marked with black dots. For want of data, no information is given as regards Native States, and the districts in which the area under the selected crop is less than 10 per cent of the total cropped area have been ignored. The chief Railway systems are indicated by thin black lines.*

INDIA
REFERENCES
RICE
WHEAT
TEA
COFFEE
COAL
OILSEEDS
SUGARCANE
COTTON
JUTE
AFGHANISTAN
KABUL
KASHMIR
TIBET
NEPAL
BHUTAN
RAJPUTANA AGENCY
BALUCHISTAN AGENCY
KARACHI
BOMBAY
CALCUTTA
MADRAS
COLOMBO
ANDAMAN ISLANDS
NICOBAR ISLANDS
LACCADIVE ISLANDS
MALDIVE ISLANDS
ARABIAN SEA
BAY OF BENGAL
INDIAN OCEAN
SUMATRA

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF TRADE

In the appended statement the value of the foreign trade by sea of India for the year ending the 31st March 1910 is compared with that in each of the preceding two years. The values are stated *in thousands of rupees* and *of pounds sterling*, of both merchandise and treasure, excluding Government transactions.

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Imports*— | | | | | | |
| Merchandise . . | 1,29,89,51 = | 86,597 | 1,21,26,58 = | 80,844 | 1,17,05,76 = | 78,039 |
| Gold . . . | 20,73,46 | 13,823 | 8,40,42 | 5,603 | 25,01,75 | 16,678 |
| Silver . . . | 12,08,58 | 8,057 | 14,22,76 | 9,485 | 12,40,85 | 8,272 |
| Total imports . | 1,62,71,55 | 108,477 | 1,43,89,76 | 95,932 | 1,54,48,36 | 102,989 |
| *Exports*— | | | | | | |
| Indian merchandise . | 1,73,59,07 | 115,727 | 1,49,85,73 | 99,905 | 1,84,33,73 | 122,892 |
| Foreign ,, . | 3,76,73 | 2,512 | 3,17,07 | 2,114 | 3,38,86 | 2,259 |
| Gold . . . | 3,38,49 | 2,257 | 3,68,81 | 2,459 | 3,34,85 | 2,232 |
| Silver . . . | 2,06,13 | 1,374 | 2,26,86 | 1,512 | 3,04,48 | 2,030 |
| Total exports . | 1,82,80,42 | 121,870 | 1,58,98,47 | 105,990 | 1,94,11,92 | 129,413 |
| Grand Total . | 3,45,51,97 | 230,347 | 3,02,88,23 | 201,922 | 3,48,60,28 | 232,402 |

The increases or decreases under these several heads in the year under review are shown below as compared with the two previous years :—

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | Per cent | ₹ | £ | Per cent |
| *Imports*— | | | | | | |
| Merchandise . . | —12,83,75 = | 8,558 | 9·9 | —4,20,82 = | 2,806 | 3·5 |
| Gold . . . | + 4,28,29 | 2,855 | 20·6 | +16,61,33 | 11,076 | 197·7 |
| Silver . . . | + 32,27 | 215 | 2·7 | — 1,81,91 | 1,213 | 12·8 |
| Total imports . | — 8,23,19 | 5,488 | 5 | +10,58,60 | 7,057 | 7·4 |
| *Exports*— | | | | | | |
| Indian merchandise . | +10,74,66 | 7,164 | 6·2 | +34,48,00 | 22,987 | 23 |
| Foreign ,, . | — 37,87 | 253 | 10·1 | + 21,79 | 145 | 6·9 |
| Gold . . . | — 3,64 | 24 | 1·1 | — 33,96 | 226 | 9·2 |
| Silver . . . | + 98,35 | 656 | 47·7 | + 77,62 | 517 | 34·2 |
| Total exports . | +11,31,50 | 7,543 | 6·2 | +35,13,45 | 23,423 | 22·1 |
| Grand Total . | + 3,08,31 | 2,055 | ·9 | +45,72,05 | 30,480 | 15·1 |

The **grand total of imports and exports** combined was, therefore, ₹348·6 crores (£232·4 millions) as against ₹302·88 crores (£201·92 millions) in 1908-09, the increase being one of ₹45·72 crores (£30·48 millions) or 15·1 per cent. This sum includes ₹3·39 crores (£2·26 millions) of foreign merchandise re-exported, but excludes some ₹5·67 crores (£ 3·8 millions) on Government account, of which ₹2·95 crores (£1·96 millions) of material were imported for State Railways. Compared with 1907-08, the increase is ₹3·08 crores (£2 millions) or nearly 1 per cent.

## IMPORTS

The total value of imports was ₹154·48 crores (£102·99 millions) as against ₹143·9 crores (£95·93 millions) in the previous year, the advance being ₹10·59 crores (£7·06 millions) or 7·4 per cent. This represents 23·1 per cent of the grand total increase in trade.

**Imports of merchandise,** however, fell again from ₹121·26 crores (£80·84 millions) to ₹117·06 crores (£78·04 millions) or by ₹4·2 crores (£2·8 millions) or 3·5 per cent.

The largest class of imports is that of **Articles manufactured and partly manufactured**. It formed about 51 per cent of the total imports and the aggregate total value rose from ₹59·25 crores (£39·5 millions) to ₹59·81 crores (£39·9 millions), the small net increase being ₹55·56 lakhs (£370,400) or about 1 per cent. **Cotton piecegoods and manufactures** recovered slightly from a heavy decline in 1908-09, the value being increased by ₹135·59 lakhs (£904,000) or 3·6 per cent from ₹38·01 crores (£25·34 millions) to ₹39·37 crores (£26·25 millions). **Grey goods** with a value of ₹17·52 crores (£11·68 millions), representing about 44·5 per cent of the imports of cotton goods, shewed an advance of ₹2·33 crores (£1·55 millions) or 15·3 per cent. But **Coloured** and **white goods** and **yarn** fell by ₹66·08 lakhs (£440,500) and ₹32·93 lakhs (£219,500), respectively. **Woollen manufactures** also declined from ₹2·91 crores (£1·94 millions) to ₹2·08 crores (£1·4 millions)—a difference of ₹82·98 lakhs (£553,200). There were increases under **glass and glassware** (₹10·74 lakhs=£71,600) and **paper and pasteboard** (₹8·67 lakhs =£57,800).

The class next in importance is that of **Metals and manufactures thereof** the total value of which fell from ₹29·96 crores (£19·97 millions) to ₹26·03 crores (£17·35 millions) or by 13·1 per cent. **Railway plant and rolling stock** with a total value of ₹5·43 crores (£3·62 millions) constituted a decline of ₹1·99 crores (£1·33 millions). **Machinery and millwork** also shewed a fall of ₹1·54 crores (£1·03 millions), the value being ₹5·07 crores (£3·38 millions) against ₹6·62 crores (£4·41 millions) in 1908-09. The total value of **Metals** also fell from ₹13 crores (£8·67 millions) to ₹12·77 crores (£8·51 millions), the net decrease being ₹23·64 lakhs (£157,600), of which **Iron and steel** accounted for ₹20·3 lakhs (£135,300) and **Copper** ₹7·79 lakhs (£51,900). **Hardware and cutlery** also fell by ₹15·94 lakhs (£106,200) to ₹2·77 crores (£1·84 millions).

Under **Articles of food and drink,** representing about 16·2 per cent of the total imports, there was a decrease of ₹56·79 lakhs (£378,600) or 2·9 per cent, the total value being ₹18·96 crores (£12·64 millions) as against ₹19·53 crores (£13·02 millions). The imports of **Sugar** and **Provisions** advanced by ₹61·54 lakhs (£410,300) and ₹8·55 lakhs (£57,000) respectively. These increases were more than counterbalanced by a total decline of ₹93·4 lakhs (£622,700) under **Grain and pulse,** composed of ₹39 lakhs (£260,000) in wheat, ₹27·37 lakhs (£182,500) in rice, and ₹17·13 lakhs (£114,200) in pulses. **Spices** also declined by ₹8·64 lakhs (£57,600) to ₹1·29 crores (£853,000).

**Raw materials, etc.,** show a nominal rise from ₹4·79 crores (£3·19 millions) to ₹4·8 crores (£3·2 millions). Appreciable increases of ₹28·98 lakhs (£193,200) under **Precious stones and pearls unset** and ₹12·91 lakhs (£86,000) under **Ivory** were neutralized by decreases under **Cotton, raw** (₹19·45 lakhs= £129,700), **Coal and coke** (₹10·78 lakhs=£71,900), **Timber** (₹6·35 lakhs=£42,300), and **Silk** and **Seeds** slightly over 4 lakhs each.

**Chemicals, drugs and medicines,** etc., advanced by ₹49·28 lakhs (£328,500), of which **drugs and medicines** contributed ₹17·36 lakhs (£115,800), **tobacco** ₹15·4 lakhs (£103,000), chemicals ₹5·77 lakhs (£38,500), **mineral dyes** ₹6·71 lakhs (£44,700), and other dyes ₹4 lakhs (£30,000).

The imports of **Oils** declined by R81 lakhs (£540,000) to R3·35 crores (£2·23 millions), **mineral oils** with a value of R3·15 crores (£2·1 millions) being responsible for R76·35 lakhs (£509,000) thereof.

Imports of **Treasure** rose from R22·63 crores (£15·1 millions) to R37·42 crores (£24·95 millions) or by 60·9 per cent, due to increased imports of **gold** amounting to R16·61 crores (£11·07 millions), while **silver** declined by R1·82 crores (£1·21 millions).

## EXPORTS

The value of **exports**, representing 55·7 per cent of the total trade, amounted to R194·12 crores (£129·41 millions) as against R158·98 crores (£105·99 millions) in the preceding year. The increase here was R35·13 crores (£23·42 millions), being 76·8 per cent of the total increase in the trade and an advance equivalent to 22·1 per cent on the exports for 1908-09.

**The exports of Indian Merchandise** formed 52·9 per cent of the total trade and 94·9 per cent of the total exports as compared with 49·5 and 94·3 per cent respectively in 1908-09. The total value rose from R149·86 crores (£99·9 millions) to R184·34 crores (£122·89 millions), the increase being R34·48 crores (£23 millions) or 23 per cent.

There have been increases in all classes, but the most considerable are those of R16·5 crores (£11 millions) under **articles of food and drink** and of R16·28 crores (£10·85 millions) under **raw materials and unmanufactured articles.** The latter is the largest class representing 45·3 per cent of the total exports of Indian merchandise as against 44·8 per cent in 1908-09 and achieved a total value of R83·47 crores (£55·65 millions) equivalent to an advance of 24·2 per cent upon the figures of the previous year. This increase was more than accounted for by **raw cotton** with a total value of R31·28 crores (£20·85 millions), the highest value ever recorded—exceeding by R11·51 crores (£7·67 millions) or 58·2 per cent that of 1908-09 and by R5·57 crores (£3·71 millions) or 21·7 per cent that of 1907-08—and by **seeds** with a total value of R18·73 crores (£12·49 millions) which was larger than in the previous year by R7·05 crores (£4·7 millions) or 60·4 per cent and by R1·91 crores (£1·27 millions) or 11·3 per cent than the record year of 1907-08. These two items represent 37·5 and 22·4 per cent respectively of the total class. **Raw jute**, the values of which were on a par with those of raw cotton in the previous year, dropped to R15·09 crores (£10·06 millions), showing a fall of R4·75 crores (£3·16 millions) equivalent to 23·9 per cent. **Raw hides** and **raw skins** showed increases of R34·18 lakhs (£228,000) and R97·08 lakhs (£647,000) respectively. Both combined exceeded the figure of 1908-09 by R1·31 crores (£873,000) or 15·7 per cent and that of 1907-08 by R2·60 crores (£1·73 millions) or 36·8 per cent. **Raw Wool** also advanced by R77·40 lakhs (£516,000) to R2·86 crores (£1·91 millions) and **Coal and coke** by R16·63 lakhs (£110,900) to R67·14 lakhs (£447,600).

**Articles of food and drink**, representing 26·6 per cent of the exports of Indian merchandise, made as already noted a remarkable advance of R16·5 crores (£11 millions). The largest increase is of R11·44 crores (£7·63 millions) under **wheat and wheatflour** with a total of R13·3 crores (£8·86 millions).

The exports of **Rice** show a more modest advance of R2·35 crores (£1·57 millions), the total value being R18·24 crores (£12·16 millions), which

is, however, less than the total in 1907-08 by R2·09 crores (£1·4 millions). Other noticeable increases in this class occurred under **Tea**, over R1·31 crores (£873,000), having maintained about the same figure in the previous two years, and **food grains** other than rice and wheat R1·21 crores (£807,000), the total value being very close to that of 1907-08. There was a marked decline of R29·36 lakhs (£195,700) under **Coffee**, though **Fruits and vegetables** advanced by R24·12 lakhs (£160,800) to R93·70 lakhs, (£624,700), and **Provisions** and **Spices** improved to the extent of R12·57 lakhs (£83,800) and R12·31 lakhs (£82,000), respectively.

The next important class is **Articles manufactured and partly manufactured**, representing about 21 per cent of the total exports of Indian merchandise. The total value rose by R1·41 crores (£940,000) or 3·8 per cent to R38·06 crores (£25·37 millions). In this class **Jute manufactures** made good half the set-back of the previous year by a recovery of R1·36 crores (£906,700), the total value being R17·1 crores (£11·4 millions), which represent 44·9 per cent of the total class. **Cotton manufactures** made steady progress with a total of R11·91 crores (£7·94 millions), showing an increase of R37·84 lakhs (£252,000) as against R77·05 lakhs (£514,000) in 1908-09. Of this increase **piecegoods** accounted for R33·79 lakhs (£225,300), **yarn** R2·85 lakhs (£19,000), and **other manufactures** R1·19 lakhs (£7,930). **Coir** advanced by R10·11 lakhs (£67,400) to R72·86 lakhs (£486,000). There was a heavy decline of R20·74 lakhs (£138,000) in **tanned skins**, with a small increase of R4·75 lakhs (£31,600) in **tanned hides**—the two combined showing a value of R3·97 crores (£2·65 millions) as compared with R4·13 crores (£2·75 millions) in 1908-09. **Lac** showed a slight improvement of R1·20 lakhs (£8,000), with a total of R2·75 crores (£1·83 millions) as against R3·88 crores (£2·59 millions) in 1907-08.

**Chemicals, drugs**, etc., declined by R21·27 lakhs (£142,000) to R11·26 crores (£7·51 millions) as against R11·47 crores (£7·65 millions) in 1908-09. The heaviest fall was in **indigo**, the trade in which is declining year by year. The total value of R35·18 lakhs (£234,500) only represents a percentage decrease of 28·3. Other losses were R6·21 lakhs (£41,400) under **saltpetre** and R3·56 lakhs (£23,700) under **opium**, the total value of which was R9·31 crores (£6·21 millions). **Tobacco** and **Myrobalans** showed an increase of about R2½ lakhs (£17·000) each.

In exports of **Oils** there was a marked rise of R26·42 lakhs (£176,000), which was divided between **mineral oils** R7·11 lakhs (£47,400) and **paraffin wax** R18·03 lakhs (£120,000). The total value amounted to R1·21 crores (£806,600) and exceeded the record total of 1903-04 by nearly R18 lakhs (£120,000).

The increase in the exports of **Metals** and **manufactures thereof** was R20·62 lakhs(£137,000) or 22·9 per cent, with a total of R1·11 crores (£740,000), which was, however, less than in 1907-08 by R11·18 lakhs (£74,500). **Manganese ore** rose by R3·13 lakhs (£20,900) to R79·10 lakhs (£527,000), other metals contributing the balance.

Exports of **Treasure** amounted to R6·39 crores (£4·26 millions), of which **gold** was worth R3·35 crores (£2·23 millions) and **silver** R3·04 crores (£2·02 millions). Gold produced in Indian mines was exported in the form of bar to London for assay to the value of R3·25 crores (£2·17 millions) as against R3·17 crores (£2·12 millions) in 1908-09. This represents 97 per cent of the exports

of this metal. The silver exports consisted hiefly of Government of India rupees and British dollars for circulation in Hongkong, Ceylon, Arabia, Bahrein Islands, Mauritius, and East Africa.

### RE-EXPORTS

The re-exports of foreign merchandise showed a rise of R21·79 lakhs (£145,300) or 6·9 per cent, the value being R3·39 crores (£2·26 millions), which represents nearly 2 per cent of the total exports. The largest single item in this class is, as usual, **Cotton manufactures**, which rose by R8·56 lakhs (£57,000) to R1·21 crores (£807,000). **Sugar** also accounted for an increase of R4·82 lakhs (£32,100) with a total value of R16·56 lakhs (£110,400). **Metals** and **hardware** slightly improved by R1·63 lakhs (£10,900), bringing the total to R25·60 lakhs (£170,700). **Raw wool** also rose by R89,000 (£5,900) to R28·80 lakhs (£192,000) and **Apparel** by R67,700 (£4,500) to R15·71 lakhs (£104,700). **Provisions** showed a decline of R1·36 lakhs (£9,100) with a total of R16·96 lakhs (£113,000). There were also declines of nearly R2 lakhs (£13,300) each under **carriages and carts** and **tea**, the aggregate values being R4·61 lakhs (£30,700) and R3·61 lakhs (£24,000) respectively.

## IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE

The volume of this trade forms about 33·6 per cent of the whole. The much inflated trade of 1907-08, valued at R129·89 crores (£86·6 millions), declined in the following year by R8·63 crores (£5·75 millions) or 6·6 per cent, and in the year under review receded to R117·06 crores (£78·04 millions), showing a decrease of R4·21 crores (£2·81 millions) or 3·5 per cent as compared with 1908-09. The total is still much larger than in any year before the record year of 1907-08.

The appended statement compares the value of the imports in 1909-10 with the annual value in each of the preceding four years, as also the average value of the last quinquennial period with that of the preceding five quinquennial periods, *in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling*. The last column shows the centesimal variations, the average value of the period ending 1884-85 being taken as 100.

| | R | £ | Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (−) | Centesimal variations |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 . . | 50,63,14= | 41,444 | ... | 100 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 . . | 61,19,76 | 43,624 | +20·9 | 120·9 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 . . | 68,47,04 | 44,192 | +11·9 | 135·2 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . . | 69,89,38 | 43,995 | + 2·1 | 138 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 . . | 83,61,72 | 55,745 | +19·6 | 165·1 |
| In the year 1905-06 . . . . | 103,08,40 | 68,723 | +23·2 | 203·6 |
| „ 1906-07 . . . . | 108,30,76 | 72,205 | + 5 | 213·9 |
| „ 1907-08 . . . . | 129,89,51 | 86,597 | +19·9 | 256·5 |
| „ 1908-09 . . . . | 121,26,57 | 80,844 | — 6·6 | 239·5 |
| „ 1909-10 . . . . | 117,05,75 | 78,038 | — 3·5 | 231·2 |
| Average, 1905-06 to 1909-10 . . | 115,92,20 | 77,281 | +38·6 | 228·9 |

The principal articles of import into India and their values during the last three years are stated below *with 000's omitted*, the percentage of increase or

decrease in their values in 1909-10 as compared with the previous year being set against each :

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | Percentage | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | Increase | Decrease |
| 1. Cotton manufactures— | | | | | | | | |
| *Grey piecegoods* | *19,41,58* | = *12,946* | *15,19,11* | = *10,127* | *17,51,79* | = *11,678* | *15·3* | ... |
| *White* „ | *11,82,51* | *7,883* | *7,77,70* | *5,185* | *7,68,25* | *5,122* | ... | *1·2* |
| *Coloured* „ | *10,79,98* | *7,200* | *9,25,11* | *6,167* | *8,68,47* | *5,790* | ... | *6·1* |
| *Yarn* | *3,69,32* | *2,462* | *3,64,88* | *2,433* | *3,31,96* | *2,213* | ... | *9* |
| *Other sorts* | *2,30,56* | *1,537* | *2,14,66* | *1,431* | *2,16,58* | *1,444* | *·9* | ... |
| TOTAL | 48,04,25 | 32,028 | 38,01,46 | 25,343 | 39,37,05 | 26,247 | 3·6 | ... |
| 2. Sugar | 9,22,70 | 6,151 | 10,90,66 | 7,271 | 11,52,20 | 7,681 | 5·6 | ... |
| 3. Iron and steel | 9,75,16 | 6,501 | 9,04,39 | 6,029 | 8,84,09 | 5,894 | ... | 2·2 |
| 4. Railway material | 7,20,08 | 4,800 | 7,41,99 | 4,947 | 5,42,99 | 3,620 | ... | 26·1 |
| 5. Machinery and millwork | 6,58,53 | 4,390 | 6,61,60 | 4,411 | 5,07,18 | 3,381 | ... | 23·3 |
| 6. Mineral oil | 3,19,33 | 2,129 | 3,90,91 | 2,606 | 3,14,55 | 2,097 | ... | 19·5 |
| 7. Provisions | 2,74,00 | 1,827 | 2,81,32 | 1,876 | 2,89,87 | 1,932 | 3 | ... |
| 8. Hardware and cutlery | 3,16,54 | 2,110 | 2,92,58 | 1,950 | 2,76,64 | 1,844 | ... | 5·4 |
| 9. Copper | 2,06,34 | 1,376 | 2,72,13 | 1,814 | 2,64,34 | 1,762 | ... | 2·9 |
| 10. Apparel | 2,58,30 | 1,722 | 2,41,73 | 1,611 | 2,38,14 | 1,588 | ... | 1·5 |
| 11. Silk manufactures | 2,13,49 | 1,423 | 2,28,14 | 1,521 | 2,26,69 | 1,511 | ... | ·6 |
| 12. Woollen manufactures | 2,76,76 | 1,845 | 2,91,09 | 1,941 | 2,08,11 | 1,387 | ... | 28·5 |
| 13. Spices | 1,56,17 | 1,041 | 1,37,40 | 916 | 1,28,76 | 858 | ... | 6·3 |
| 14. Glass and glassware | 1,44,52 | 963 | 1,16,93 | 779 | 1,28,53 | 857 | 9·9 | ... |
| 15. Spirits | 1,10,44 | 736 | 1,12,68 | 751 | 1,10,30 | 735 | ... | 2·1 |
| 16. Instruments and apparatus | 1,36,33 | 909 | 1,23,81 | 825 | 1,08,42 | 723 | ... | 12·4 |
| 17. Paper and pasteboard | 99,24 | 662 | 92,63 | 618 | 1,01,30 | 675 | 9·4 | ... |
| 18. Silk, raw | 98,15 | 654 | 1,01,89 | 679 | 97,70 | 651 | ... | 4·1 |
| 19. Tobacco | 84,36 | 562 | 79,42 | 529 | 94,82 | 632 | 19·4 | ... |
| 20. Carriages and carts | 1,18,00 | 787 | 92,78 | 618 | 91,52 | 610 | ... | 1·4 |
| 21. Drugs and medicines | 90,92 | 606 | 72,82 | 485 | 90,19 | 601 | 23·8 | ... |
| 22. Aniline and alizarine dyes | 84,65 | 564 | 80,48 | 537 | 87,19 | 581 | 8·3 | ... |
| 23. Matches | 73,77 | 492 | 74,50 | 497 | 81,55 | 544 | 9·5 | ... |
| 24. Precious stones and pearls | 69,57 | 464 | 51,62 | 344 | 80,60 | 537 | 56·1 | ... |
| 25. Chemicals | 79,28 | 529 | 74,68 | 498 | 80,46 | 536 | 7·7 | ... |
| 26. Coal | 59,35 | 396 | 82,25 | 543 | 72,61 | 484 | ... | 11·7 |
| 27. Salt | 80,21 | 535 | 84,07 | 560 | 68,88 | 459 | ... | 18·1 |
| 28. Timber | 80,25 | 535 | 72,34 | 482 | 66,00 | 440 | ... | 8·8 |
| 29. Paints and colours and painter's materials | 62,37 | 416 | 59,65 | 398 | 57,30 | 382 | ... | 3·9 |
| 30. Beer | 61,11 | 407 | 58,10 | 387 | 54,28 | 362 | ... | 6·6 |
| 31. Stationery (excluding paper) | 44,38 | 296 | 43,79 | 292 | 48,27 | 322 | 10·2 | ... |
| 32. Cotton | 70,95 | 473 | 53,03 | 354 | 33,58 | 224 | ... | 36·7 |
| 33. Horses | 38,33 | 256 | 28,43 | 190 | 33,02 | 220 | 16·1 | ... |

From the above it appears that only in grey cotton piecegoods, sugar, tobacco, drugs and medicines, and precious stones and pearls was there any appreciable expansion of business. The most noticeable declines are those under cotton yarn and coloured piecegoods, railway material, machinery and millwork, mineral oil, woollen manufactures, salt, and raw cotton. Further it should be noted that the increase in the value of sugar and tobacco is due to increased prices, and not increased volume. The prices of woollen manufactures, coal, timber, and salt fell during the year.

The value of the trade in each of the classes under which articles are grouped in the accounts was in *thousands of rupees and £ sterling :*

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| I Animals living (mostly horses) | 44,10 | = 294 | 30,56 | = 204 | 34,66 | = 231 |
| II Articles of food and drink | 17,13,42 | 11,423 | 19,52,65 | 13,018 | 18,95,86 | 12,639 |
| III Metals and manufactures of metals | 30,14,30 | 20,096 | 29,96,46 | 19,976 | 26,03,42 | 17,357 |
| IV Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyes | 3,58,85 | 2,392 | 3,27,16 | 2,181 | 3,76,45 | 2,510 |
| V Oils | 3,69,49 | 2,463 | 4,15,85 | 2,772 | 3,34,84 | 2,232 |
| VI Raw materials and unmanufactured articles | 5,00,40 | 3,336 | 4,78,64 | 3,191 | 4,79,68 | 3,198 |
| VII Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 69,88,95 | 46,593 | 59,25,26 | 39,502 | 59,80,85 | 39,872 |

## I.—ANIMALS, LIVING

This head is comparatively unimportant, consisting chiefly of horses imported from Australia for the army, hacks, carriage horses, polo ponies, and a few high priced thoroughbreds. The imports of **horses** has steadily declined in recent years—from R55·48 lakhs (£369,800) in 1904-05 to R28·43 lakhs (£190,000) in 1908-09, though in the year under review the value rose to R33·02 lakhs (£220,100) or by 16·2 per cent, but the average value fell from R444 (£29 12*s.*) to R437 (£29 3*s.*) per animal. The number of horses brought to Bombay from the Persian Gulf is also declining.

The trade in other animals is insignificant, but about 500 mules were imported for Government purposes from China.

## II.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

The values during the last three years of the **principal articles** in this group have been—

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| 1 Sugar | 9,22,70,442 | = 6,151,363 | 10,90,66,089 | = 7,271,073 | 11,52,27,438 | = 7,681,829 |
| 2 Provisions | 2,74,00,093 | 1,826,673 | 2,81,32,225 | 1,875,481 | 2,89,86,275 | 1,932,418 |
| 3 Liquors | 2,00,49,118 | 1,336,608 | 1,98,49,839 | 1,323,323 | 1,91,49,309 | 1,276,621 |
| 4 Spices | 1,56,16,955 | 1,041,130 | 1,37,39,983 | 915,999 | 1,28,75,669 | 858,378 |
| 5 Salt | 80,21,186 | 534,746 | 84,07,598 | 560,507 | 68,89,721 | 459,315 |
| 6 Grain and pulse | 36,71,881 | 244,792 | 1,23,36,409 | 822,428 | 29,96,291 | 199,753 |
| 7 Tea | 22,73,457 | 151,564 | 21,56,304 | 143,754 | 17,57,989 | 117,199 |
| 8 Fruits and Vegetables | 14,99,727 | 99,982 | 10,95,951 | 72,996 | 13,25,798 | 88,386 |

**Fruits and vegetables.**—The total value of this trade was R13·26 lakhs (£88,400), against R10·96 lakhs (£73,000) in 1908-09, showing an increase of R2·3 lakhs (£15,400) or 21 per cent. This increase was attributable to the expansion of the trade in **other sorts,** which include fresh fruits and vegetables, such as mangosteens and pine apples from the Straits. The fall of R58,000 (£3,870) under **copra** was partly compensated for by a rise of R43,500 (£2,900) under **cocoanuts.**

**Grain and Pulse.**—This trade in normal years is of no importance, for India in such years does not need to import food grains from external sources. The temporary expansion of this trade in 1908-09 contracted again in the year of report with a total of 24,774 tons, valued at R29·96 lakhs (£199,700), as against 95,400 tons, valued at R123·36 lakhs (£822,400), in 1908-09. The most noticeable decreases are under **wheat and wheat flour** from 35,599 tons and R49·75 lakhs (£331,700) to 2,759 tons and R4·58 lakhs (£30,500), **rice** from 30,988 tons and R44·06 lakhs (£293,700) to 13,170 tons and R16·69 lakhs (£111,300), and **pulses** from 20,827 tons and R21·28 lakhs (£141,200) to 4,240 tons and R4·15 lakhs (£27,700).

**Liquors.**—Of the three main divisions, **malt liquors, spirits,** and **wines,** the quantities and values of imports are stated below for each of the last three years (*000's omitted*) :—

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | gallons | R | £ | gallons | R | £ | gallons | R | £ |
| Malt Liquors | 4,889 | 61,39= | 409 | 4,907 | 58,51= | 390 | 4,194 | 54,73= | 365 |
| Spirits | 1,660 | 1,10,44 | 736 | 1,682 | 1,12,68 | 751 | 1,704 | 1,10,30 | 735 |
| Wines | 347 | 28,66 | 191 | 338 | 27,31 | 182 | 339 | 26,45 | 176 |
| TOTAL | 6,896 | 2,00,49 | 1,336 | 6,327 | 1,98,50 | 1,323 | 36,237 | 1,91,48 | 1,276 |

The total value is R191·49 lakhs (£1,276,600). It will be seen that there has been a decline in total values of R9 lakhs (£60,000) during the triennium, the fall in the current year being R7 lakhs (£46,600).

The enhanced rates of duty on all fermented liquors, spirits, and wines, enacted by the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, VIII of 1910, which came into force so late as the 25th February last, had but little effect on the trade of the year, though Calcutta reports the bonding of some 20,000 gallons in March.

The imports of **malt liquor,** of which about 90 per cent is brewed or bottled in the United Kingdom, have again fallen, the decline in 1909-10 being one of 113,000 gallons or 2·6 per cent in quantity and R3·78 lakhs (£25,200) or 6·5 per cent in value, which represents a diminution of 2·1 per cent in the specific value.

The production of Indian brewed beer has also diminished in recent years, falling from 6·47 million gallons in 1902 to 5·18 millions in 1908 and 4·82 millions in 1909.

The consumption of beer has steadily fallen since the duty was raised from one to two annas a gallon in January 1908. The average annual consumption for the six years ending in December 1907 was 10,509,473 gallons. In 1908 the total was 9,570,557 gallons and in 1909, 9,110,861 gallons only, and with the duty now standing at three annas, there is likely to be a further fall. The work of the Army Temperance Association among British troops, who may be assumed to be responsible roughly for about half of the total consumption, and the contraction of trade in cheap beer for native consumption manufactured in Bangalore and the Nilgiris owing to excise restrictions and reduction of shops, are other factors operating in the same direction.

The following statement shows the totals in *gallons* of all **spirits,** including liqueurs and methylated and perfumed spirits, imported from the several principal countries, contrasted with the quantity issued from distilleries in India, in each of the last three years:

| | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom . . | 815,860 | 841,733 | 815,138 |
| „ France . . . | 306,473 | 297,497 | 304,695 |
| „ Germany . . . | 210,112 | 161,071 | 151,134 |
| „ Other countries . . | 327,847 | 381,584 | 433,354 |
| Total . | 1,660,292 | 1,681,885 | 1,704,321 |
| Issued from Indian distilleries . | 8,678,448 | 7,949,649 | 9,920,603 |

With reference to the indigenous production of spirits, it should be remembered that there has recently been a great extension of areas served by distilleries at the expense of outstills, whose produce was not brought to account, and therefore the large increase in output is more apparent than real and has not been made at the expense of imported liquor.

The imports of all sorts of spirits increased by 22,436 gallons or 1·3 per cent in quantity, but decreased in value by R2·38 lakhs (£15,900) or 2·1 per cent. The fall in specific value is one of 3·4 per cent. The enhancement of import duty under the recent Act has not effected hitherto any restriction in the imports.

The quantities of the principal descriptions of **potable spirits** imported in the last three years were (in *gallons*) :—

| | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Whisky . . . | 635,834 | 681,401 | 649,320 |
| Brandy . . . | 399,603 | 376,475 | 378,600 |
| Gin . . . . | 77,139 | 84,160 | 81,622 |
| Rum . . . . | 71,433 | 64,114 | 69,479 |
| Other sorts . . . | 147,496 | 174,731 | 161,067 |
| Total . . | 1,331,505 | 1,380,911 | 1,340,088 |

Three quarters of the **Brandy** imported come from France. The only **whisky** which is not from the United Kingdom is from Germany and Belgium. The United Kingdom and Holland share the **gin** trade, and **Rum** comes principally in casks from Java. The potable spirits in the omnibus heading "other sorts" are chiefly Java **arrack** and **white and rectified spirit,** mainly from Germany, which are generally used for methylating and compounding, and **Colombo arrack** for potable purposes.

Under imports of **Wines,** there was an inconsiderable increase of 777 gallons or ·2 per cent in quantity, the total being 338,501 gallons, while the value declined by R85,895 (£5,726) or 3·1 per cent to R26·45 lakhs (£176,300). The average value per gallon fell from R8-1-4 (10*s.* 9*d.*) to R7-12-11$\frac{1}{2}$ (10*s.*5*d.*) or by 3·3 per cent.

**Provisions.**—This is a composite head, consisting of several items of a very comprehensive character, though of comparatively small amount. The head **Fruits and vegetables**, for instance, represents a value of R85·4 lakhs (£569,600) against R83·4 lakhs (£556,200) in 1908-09, and consists mainly of **Almonds and dates**, but includes many other dried, salted or preserved fruits and vegetables also. The largest single item under Provisions is **Dates,** which advanced in value from R46·3 lakhs (£308,500) to R54·8 lakhs (£365,300) and in quantity from 817,662 to 910,997 cwts, representing an increase of 18·4 per cent in value, 11·4 per cent in quantity, and about 6 per cent in specific value. The head **salted fish** declined from R27·59 lakhs (£183,900) to R26·97 lakhs (£179,800), of which dry salted fish accounted for R22·76 lakhs (£151,000), in the year of report. The import of foreign **Biscuits** has practically maintained the level of 1908-09 at R28·15 lakhs (£187,700) in spite of increasing manufacture of country biscuits. **Canned and bottled provisions** show no advance upon the figures of 1908-09, the value amounting to R32·14 lakhs (£214,300), and **Farinaceous foods** declined from R32·14 lakhs (£214,300) to R31·53 lakhs (£210,200). **Milk, condensed and preserved**, improved by R2·9 lakhs (£19,330) to R25·62 lakhs (£170,800). The last but not least comprehensive head of provisions "other sorts," which include **beche de mer, butter, fishmaws, ghi, jams, lard, pickles, sago flour,** besides a number of unspecified items, represents a value of R41·91 lakhs (£279,400) as against R38·26 lakhs (£255,000) in 1908-09.

The total value of the whole class rose from R2·81 crores (£1·87 millions) to R2·9 crores (£1·93 millions) or by R8·55 lakhs (£57,000) which is equivalent to 3 per cent. The sources of supply are the United Kingdom (40·2 per cent of the total), the Persian Gulf (25·1 per cent), and the Straits (17·4 per cent).

**Salt.**—The imports of **salt** during the year under review show a marked decline, which is not, however, to be attributed either to decreased consumption

or to any active boycott, but to the carrying over of heavy stocks from 1908-09. The quantities and values for the last five years have been as follows :—

| | Tons | R | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . | 464,531 | 65,71,870 | =438,125 |
| 1906-07 . . | 467,949 | 66,77,390 | 445,159 |
| 1907-08 . . | 558,684 | 80,21,186 | 534,746 |
| 1908-09 . . | 588,887 | 84,07,598 | 560,507 |
| 1909-10 . . | 498,448 | 68,87,972 | 459,198 |

The decrease in 1909-10 is one of 90,439 tons and R15·19 lakhs (£101,300), and the fall in specific value is equivalent to 3·2 per cent. The consumption of salt has steadily risen with the reduction of the duty. Since 1907-08, when the present rate of duty R1(1*s.* 4*d.*) per maund was adopted, the total has risen from 1,547,601 to 1,680,726 tons in 1909-10. Low prices, cheap freights, and a somewhat artificial preference in certain centres for Spanish salt led to great competition and a large increase in the imports in the years 1907-08 and 1908-09 and introduced to India several fresh sources of supply. In 1909-10 arrived the first shipment from Massowah in Italian East Africa. The distribution of the import trade during the past three years has been as follows :—

| | 1907-08 Tons | 1908-09 Tons | 1909-10 Tons |
|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom . . . | 197,327 | 188,154 | 142,043 |
| Germany . . . . | 66,089 | 51,538 | 57,440 |
| Spain . . . . | 88,320 | 121,770 | 120,998 |
| Turkey, Asiatic . . . | 91,386 | 102,469 | 53,886 |
| Aden . . . . | 79,290 | 102,128 | 60,784 |
| Egypt . . . . | 36,234 | 22,497 | 52,242 |
| Other countries . . . | 38 | 31 | 11,055 |
| Total | 558,684 | 588,887 | 498,448 |

Spanish and German salt have benefited from exceptionally low freights, which alone enabled the latter to undersell Liverpool salt in the Rangoon market.

The price of Liverpool salt *ex* warehouse in Calcutta stood at R43 (£2 17*s.* 4*d.*) per 100 maunds in April 1909, and fell to R34 (£2 5*s.* 4*d.*) in July. At the end of March 1910 the price was R38 (£2 10*s.* 8*d.*) as compared with R37 (£2 9*s.* 4*d.*) for Spanish salt.

The stocks of imported salt in Calcutta were reduced during the twelve months from 130,000 to 96,000 tons, and the actual consumption of foreign salt was the highest on record.

**Spices.**—The aggregate quantity of **spices** imported into India during 1909-10 increased by 5·2 per cent from 130,353,527 to 137,116,069 lbs, but there was a fall in specific value of 10·5 per cent, and the total values recorded this year are R128·76 lakhs (£858,400) against R137·4 lakhs (£916,000) in 1908-09. The principal item, **Betelnuts,** represents 68·4 per cent of the total with the record figures of 54,521 tons and R88·02 lakhs (£586,800) against 48,900 tons and R80·78 lakhs (£538,500) in the previous year, showing an increase of 11·4 per cent in quantity and 9 per cent in value. Increased imports are attributed in part to the damage done to the crop in Eastern Bengal by the cyclone of October last. The Straits supplied 87 per cent and Ceylon 12 per cent of the quantity imported, and of the receiving ports Calcutta took 63 per cent and

Madras 21·3 per cent. Direct imports from the Dutch East Indies have practically ceased. The trade in **cloves**, coming principally from Zanzibar and Pemba and imported into Bombay, amounted to 3,762 tons with a value of R24·19 lakhs (£161,200), marking an advance of 16·2 per cent in quantity, but a decline of 16·3 per cent in specific value. **Pepper**, imported chiefly from the Straits, showed a great decline from 4,305 tons and R19·96 lakhs (£133,000) to 1,610 tons and R6·97 lakhs (£46,500).

**Sugar.**—The world's sugar trade during the twelve months under review was marked by a steady rise in prices due to a general shortage of the beet crop as a result of the bad weather on the Continent, which increased production in Cuba, the West Indies, and Java was not expected to make good. Ten years ago before the Brussels Convention and the abolition of the bounty system the production of beet sugar was about double than that of cane, but in 1909 it is calculated that the cane crops of the world amounted to about 8 million tons, excluding India, as compared with about 6 million tons of beet. The combined total is below the estimated world's annual consumption of 14½ million tons, and proved insufficient for the requirements of the campaign. In March 1910 stocks were much lower than twelve months earlier; and the recent floods in Germany and elsewhere are likely to affect the next beet harvest and maintain prices at or about their present level. The average price per cwt of 88·per cent beet, f. o. b. Hamburg, in the last five years has been as follows:—

| | *s* | *d* | | *s* | *d* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1905 . . . | 11 | 6½ | 1908 . . . | 10 | 5 |
| 1906 . . . | 8 | 7½ | 1909 . . . | 10 | 11 |
| 1907 . . . | 9 | 5½ | | | |

The price on the 25th March 1910 was 14*s.* 7*d.*

The following table shows the **arrival of cane and beet sugar** in the last five years, shipments being assigned as far as possible to the countries in which the sugar was produced:

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Cane*— | cwts | cwts | cwts | cwts | cwts |
| From Java . . . | 2,007,449 | 3,467,358 | 6,593,669 | 6,172,039 | 7,815,015 |
| „ Mauritius . . | 2,013,632 | 2,310,177 | 2,600,193 | 2,514,440 | 2,435,560 |
| „ China . . . | 27,731 | 5,423 | 7,340 | 6,384 | 22,095 |
| „ Reunion . . | 35,269 | 109,090 | 23,587 | 19,505 | ... |
| „ Straits Settlements | 10,107 | 6,132 | 11,787 | 804 | 3,113 |
| „ Other countries . | 168,741 | 28,668 | 14,265 | 6,098 | 1,095 |
| Total . | 4,262,929 | 5,926,848 | 9,250,841 | 8,719,270 | 10,276,878 |
| *Beet*— | | | | | |
| From Austria-Hungary | 2,453,733 | 2,016,803 | 730,265 | 1,918,158 | 782,773 |
| „ Germany . . | 630,416 | 1,657,679 | 51,879 | 3,073 | 51,538 |
| „ Belgium . . | 122,445 | 104,104 | 1,302 | 989 | 1,474 |
| „ France . . | 224,443 | 23,826 | 9,782 | 472 | 306 |
| „ Other countries . | 2,225 | 1,422 | 832 | 21,321 | 23,115 |
| Total . | 3,433,262 | 3,803,834 | 794,060 | 1,944,013 | 859,206 |
| Total Sugar, excluding molasses and confectionery | 7,696,191 | 9,730,682 | 10,044,901 | 10,663,283 | 11,136,084 |
| Value { | R7,50,02,109 | 8,18,28,277 | 8,79,19,287 | 10,40,97,056 | 10,97,82,740 |
| | =£5,000,141 | 5,455,218 | 5,861,286 | 6,939,804 | 7,318,849 |

The **imports of sugar of both kinds** together rose again by 472,800 cwts and by R56·86 lakhs (£379,100) to 11,136,084 cwts and R10·98 crores (£7·32

millions). The rates of increase were 4·4 per cent in quantity and 5·5 per cent in value, the specific value marking a net increase of one per cent per unit.

In **cane sugar** the increase was one of 1,557,608 cwts or 17·8 per cent in quantity and R163·91 lakhs (£1,093,000) or 19·4 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being 1·2 per cent. Cane sugar now represents quantitatively 92·3 per cent of the total sugar imports and 91·8 per cent of the values.

The imports of **beet sugar** contracted by 1,084,807 cwts or 55·8 per cent in quantity and by R106·99 lakhs (£713,000) or 54·2 per cent in value, the increased percentage in specific value being 3·4 per unit. The recovery made in 1908-09 was not maintained in the year of report, though the volume of imports was slightly larger than in 1907-08. The average declared value per cwt was R10-8 (14*s*) as compared with R10-2 (13*s* 6*d*) in 1908-09.

The chief sources of supply of **cane sugar** continue to be Java and Mauritius. Java represents a combination of cheap Oriental labour with the latest methods of scientific manufacture, and is fortunate in finding a dumping ground so conveniently close as India for her surplus products, more particularly as the recent resuscitation of the Formosan industry by the Japanese, and the free import of sugar from the Philippines into the United States of America allowed under the Payne tariff are bound to restrict her activity in the Further East. It is interesting to speculate when India's absorption of refined sugar is likely to reach saturation point.

In the supply of **refined sugar** Java is responsible for no less than 69 per cent of the total arrivals, having shipped 7,510,561 cwts as compared with 5,355,309 cwts or 54 per cent in 1908-09. Mauritius comes second at a respectful distance with 2,414,097 cwts or 22·2 per cent as against 2,486,986 cwts or 25·1 per cent in the previous year, though her crop was the largest on record. She is, except for the Bombay market, at a great disadvantage as compared with Java in the matter of freights, and a large part of her exportable surplus was attracted to Europe by the high prices prevailing there.

In **beet sugar** Austria-Hungary continues to retain the dominant place with 765,516 cwts, being 7 per cent of the total imports, and Germany comes next with 86,807 cwts or less than one per cent. A more regular distribution of the Java supplies, the *swadeshi* preference for cane sugar, and the shortage of the Continental crop were special causes affecting the volume of beet absorption in 1909-10.

Java continues to supply practically the whole of the imports of **unrefined sugar**, but the imports owing to the accumulation of stocks in 1908-09 were much below the figure for that year except in Madras where a short supply of palmyra jaggery created a distillery demand. The total quantities received were 224,678 cwts, valued at R20·58 lakhs (£137,200), as compared with 716,123 cwts, valued at R64·92 lakhs (£432,800), for the previous twelve months.

The Indian sugar crop, which came into commercial consideration during the statistical year, was that harvested in 1909-10, and it may be of interest to compare the estimated acreage and production in British India according to the annual forecast with those of the previous five years. The yield, which represents *gur* or molasses and not refined sugar, is calculated to exceed by 13·5 per cent the figures of 1908-09 as the season in the chief reporting provinces was very favourable, but it will be seen that the outturn per acre is equivalent to only one ton, as compared with 4·13 tons for the last Java crop. In

Madras the average outturn is assumed to be nearly 2 tons, but in the United Provinces, which includes over 50 per cent of the total average, the estimate is ·95 ton. The area under sugar in Native States so far as ascertainable is in the neighbourhood of 100,000 acres, which if the same percentage is adopted would bring the total outturn in the Indian Empire for 1909-10 to 2,225,000 tons, exclusive of palm sugar.

| | Acres | tons |
|---|---|---|
| 1904-05 . . . | 2,244,800 | 2,169,000 |
| 1905-06 . . . | 2,111,000 | 1,725,500 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 2,351,800 | 2,205,300 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 2,639,200 | 2,046,900 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 2,202,800 | 1,872,900 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 2,127,100 | 2,125,300 |

India's potentialities as a sugar producer are hampered by the small and scattered nature of the holdings, the impracticability, except perhaps in new assignments such as the Canal Colonies, of concentrating cultivation round a central factory, and the peculiarities of demand which as to four fifths of its volume is restricted to molasses and low grade sugars, produced by wasteful and primitive methods and commanding prices out of all proportion to their refinery values. A great deal has been done on the other hand by the provincial Agricultural Departments in the matter of supply of seed canes to the cultivators, and the India Sugar League was founded in the course of the year to organize and develop the industry as far as possible from the manufacturer's point of view.

Calcutta's share of the total imports amounted to 42·9 per cent, Bombay following with 28·9 per cent and Karachi coming third with 21·3 per cent, Rangoon and Madras account for 4·5 and 2·2 per cent respectively.

The **prices** per cwt **of beet and Java sugar** at the chief ports of imports in the months of April and November 1909 and January and April 1910 were as follows :—

| | | | Bombay | | | | | Karachi | | | | | Calcutta | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ₹ | A. | P. | s. | d. | ₹ | A. | P. | s. | d. | ₹ | A. | P. | s. | d. |
| Beet | April | 1909 | 10 | 8 | 9=14 | | 0¾ | 10 | 15 | 0=14 | | 7 | 10 | 6 | 6=13 | | 10½ |
| | November | 1909 | 10 | 14 | 3 | 14 | 6¼ | 11 | 11 | 0 | 15 | 7 | 11 | 3 | 9 | 14 | 11¾ |
| | January | 1910 | 10 | 15 | 6 | 14 | 7⅓ | 11 | 4 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 2 |
| | April | 1910 | 11 | 10 | 6 | 15 | 6½ | 13 | 4 | 6 | 17 | 8½ | 12 | 2 | 6 | 16 | 2⅓ |
| Java | April | 1909 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 14 | 3¾ | 11 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 9½ | 10 | 6 | 0 | 13 | 10 |
| | November | 1909 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 14 | 2¾ | 11 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 13 | 9 |
| | January | 1910 | 10 | 14 | 3 | 14 | 6¼ | 11 | 7 | 0 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 11 |
| | April | 1910 | 11 | 9 | 9 | 15 | 5¾ | 13 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 11 | 15 | 0 | 15 | 11 |

**Tea.**—The sea-borne imports of foreign tea, which includes tea from Ceylon, after two years of considerable increases, declined by 17·3 per cent in quantity to 3,679,587 lbs, and in value by 18·5 per cent to ₹17·58 lakhs (£117,000). The loss was shared almost equally by Ceylon and China, and the average value fell to 7 annas 8 pies (7⅔*d*) per lb as compared with 7 annas 9 pies (7¾*d*) in 1908-09. China imported only 1,172,047 lbs of green tea, valued at ₹6·32 lakhs (£42,130) against 1,495,585 lbs, valued at ₹8·12 lakhs (£54,200), in the previous year, but her share of black tea increased by 5·3 per cent in quantity and 8·2 per cent in value. Estimates of re-exportation must be taken with some reserve for it is known that, more especially on the land routes, foreign and Indian tea is not always accurately distinguished. The re-exports by sea in 1909-10 amounted to 487,378 lbs, to which 365,232 lbs are to be

added as exports across the land frontiers. Of the total of 852,610 lbs thus arrived at, which represents 12·7 per cent of the imports both by land and sea, black tea accounts for 726,502 lbs.

On the average of the last five years it would appear that some 5·2 million lbs of foreign tea are yearly retained for consumption in India, as will be seen from the appended statement:—

| | Sea-borne | | | Frontier | | | Net import both by land and sea |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Import | Re-export | Net import | Import | Export | Net import | |
| | lbs | lbs | lbs | lbs | lbs | lbs | lbs |
| 1905-06 . . . | 3,799,272 | 781,553 | 3,017,714 | 2,498,720 | 538,272 | 1,960,448 | 4,978,162 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 2,683,875 | 501,577 | 2,182,298 | 2,150,848 | 584,528 | 1,566,320 | 3,748,618 |
| 1907-08 . . | 3,910,714 | 991,305 | 2,919,409 | 2,527,616 | 461,104 | 2,066,512 | 4,985,921 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 4,447,506 | 833,996 | 3,613,510 | 3,135,552 | 423,920 | 2,711,632 | 6,325,142 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 3,679,587 | 487,378 | 3,192,209 | 3,016,832 | 365,232 | 2,651,600 | 5,843,809 |
| Average . | 3,704,191 | 719,163 | 2,985,028 | 2,665,913 | 474,611 | 2,191,302 | 5,176,330 |

The imports from the Northern Shan States into Burma account for practically the whole of the land supplies. The figures for 1909-10 were 2,930,000 lbs.

## III.—METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS

**Hardware and cutlery** form 10·6 per cent of the total value of imports of metals and manufactures of metals. From the following statement it will appear that their values declined by R15·94 lakhs (£106,200) or 5·4 per cent:

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Cutlery . . . . | 18,29,627 = | 121,975 | 17,51,714 = | 116,781 | 14,77,396 = | 98,493 |
| Agricultural implements . | 13,27,478 | 88,498 | 9,96,489 | 66,433 | 9,16,850 | 61,123 |
| Other implements and tools . | 19,53,151 | 130,210 | 19,97,750 | 133,183 | 19,85,158 | 132,344 |
| Enamelled ironware . . | 24,48,803 | 163,254 | 18,00,371 | 120,025 | 12,85,946 | 85,730 |
| Sewing machines . . | 11,43,342 | 76,223 | 12,20,501 | 81,367 | 15,41,673 | 102,778 |
| Unspecified hardware . . | 2,29,52,162 | 1,530,144 | 2,14,91,357 | 1,432,757 | 2,04,57,451 | 1,363,830 |
| Total . | 3,16,54,563 | 2,110,304 | 2,92,58,182 | 1,950,546 | 2,76,64,474 | 1,844,298 |

In **Cutlery** there was an appreciable decline of R2·74 lakhs (£18,300) or 15·8 per cent, which may be ascribed to accumulation of stocks in previous years. The steady decline in the values of **Agricultural implements** imported from R13·27 lakhs (£88,500) in 1907-08 to R9·17 lakhs (£61,100) in the year of report is ascribed in part to the indifference of manufacturers in Europe, particularly in the United Kingdom, and their failure to satisfy the special conditions of the Indian market in respect of cost and design and in part to the greater attention given to this class of business by manufacturers in India. In the Canal Colonies of the Panjab there is a not inconsiderable and steadily increasing demand for labour-saving appliances in all stages of agricultural operations. A great expansion in the imports of machinery of all kinds, and of agricultural and industrial in particular, may be anticipated to result from the forthcoming Allahabad Exhibition. The next head, **other implements and tools** has remained very steady for the past three years: the figures for 1909-10 showing only a slight setback from those of 1908-09. **Enamelled ware** further

declined by R5·14 lakhs (£34,300) to R12·86 lakhs (£85,700). Compared with the imports of 1907-08, the decline was R11·63 lakhs (£77,500) or 47·5 per cent. The decline is probably more attributable to a fall in prices of brass and copper, of which domestic utensils are made, than to any marked increase in the use of aluminium ware. The sources of supply are Austria-Hungary (68·6 per cent), Germany (19·2 per cent), and the United Kingdom (10·7 per cent), the respective percentages for 1908-09 being 63·2, 23·6 and 11·7 of the whole trade. The trade in **Sewing machines** has assumed respectable dimensions, the value of imports being R15·42 lakhs (£102,800), which is 26·3 per cent more than in 1908-09. In Southern India they are now a common feature of every considerable bazaar. The most important item is the composite head **other sorts**, the value of which (R2·05 crores=£1·36 millions) represents 78·1 per cent of the hardware class. The total marks a decline of R10·34 lakhs (£68,900) or 4·8 per cent from the figures of the previous year. This head includes, amongst many other unspecified items, **Lampware**, the trade in which shews steady progress. The value rose by R3·36 lakhs (£22,400) or 13·8 per cent to R27·77 lakhs (£185,100), which is an advance upon the highest figures previously recorded, *viz.*, R26·88 lakhs (£179,000) in 1907-08. The increase is no doubt due to the increasing consumption of mineral in preference to vegetable oils among the common people. The United Kingdom claims 32·8 per cent of this trade, while Germany, the United States, and Austria-Hungary supply to the extent of 21, 20·8, and 19·3 per cent respectively.

Taking the whole trade in **Hardware and cutlery**, the United Kingdom accounts for R181·43 lakhs (£1,209,600), shewing a decrease of R13·58 lakhs (£90,500) or 7 per cent, which is 65·6 per cent of the total against 66·6 per cent in 1908-09. Germany's share represents 13·2 per cent, a slightly higher level than in 1908-09, though the value diminished by R1·22 lakhs (£8,100) or 3·2 per cent to R36·43 lakhs (£242,900). Belgium has slightly lost ground with a percentage of 5·7 against 6·2 in the previous year, the decline in value being one of R2·1 lakhs (£14,000) or 11·7 per cent to R15·91 lakhs (£106,000). Austria-Hungary and the United States are two other countries chiefly interested. The share of the former has fallen from 6·5 to 6·2 per cent, while that of the latter has increased from 5 to 6·3 per cent.

**Metals.**—The imports of foreign metals represent 10·9 per cent of the total value of imported merchandise. Both the quantity and value receded from 652,284 tons and R13 crores (£8·67 millions) to 644,730 tons and R12·77 crores (£8·51 millions), the decline being one of 7,554 tons or 1·1 per cent in quantity and of R23·64 lakhs (£157,600) or 1·8 per cent in value. This represents a loss of less than one per cent in specific value in the aggregate, but it covers considerable fluctuations in the prices of the different articles comprising the group.

The following table shows the variations in total quantity and value, and in specific value, of the principal metals imported during the year :

| | Percentages of increase (+) or decrease (—) in | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Value | Value per unit |
| Brass | −31·6 | −30·2 | +2·1 |
| Copper | +2 | −2·9 | −4·9 |
| Iron | +8 | +4·4 | −3·3 |
| Steel | −8·4 | −9·6 | −1·4 |
| Lead | −1·7 | −4·8 | −3·5 |
| Tin | +3·9 | +4 | ... |

These variations, as might be expected, do not correspond very closely with those calculated upon the average London quotations for the standard lines in each metal, but they shew roughly the trend of prices during the year.

**Brass** is in scarcely less demand than copper in India for domestic utensils, more particularly when the price of the latter is high. The year under review opened with considerable accumulations of stock, and imports declined from 24,579 cwts and R13·38 lakhs (£89,200) to 16,800 cwts and R9·33 lakhs (£62,200), a fall of 31·6 per cent in quantity and 30·2 per cent in value The rise in specific value is one of 2·1 per cent.

**Copper** represented, as in the year 1908-09, nearly 21 per cent of the total value of all metals imported. In contrast to the extraordinary fluctuation in 1907, the price of copper G. M. B. during the last two years has remained remarkably steady, ranging between £57 10*s*. and £61 15*s*. per ton in the year under review. In June and again in January under the stimulus of a reported big amalgamation of interests in America and negotiations to restrict production, over £61 was touched, but the year closed with falling rates and the average monthly quotation is lower than in 1908-09. With such stable conditions prevailing, the quantity of copper imported only shews a fractional increase over that of the previous year, while the value declined by 2·9 per cent. **Wrought copper** represents 87·2 per cent of the total quantity, that is to say, 441,615 cwts with a value of R2·32 crores (£1·55 millions) as compared with 444,984 cwts and R2·46 crores (£1·64 millions) in 1908-09. This represents a decline of nearly one per cent in quantity and 5·8 per cent in value, equivalent to a fall in specific value of 5·1 per cent. **Unwrought copper** advanced at the same time by 26·4 per cent to 63,973 cwts and by 25 per cent to R31·92 lakhs (£212,800), the average value having fallen from R50 6 as. 1 pie (£3 7*s*. 2*d*.) to R49 13as. 3 pies (£3 6*s*. 5*d*.) per cwt. The imports from Japan represent 87·6 per cent of the total.

The extraction of copper ore in India continues negligible, the reported production in 1909 amounting to 7 tons only as against 11 tons in 1908.

The **Iron and Steel** trades continued disappointingly inactive during the first six months of the year under review, and the price movements were within comparatively small limits until, with a slight improvement in trade conditions in August, some speculative inflation was engineered in America, where the new Tariff further encouraged the expectation in other markets of increased orders from the States by a reduction of import duty. At the close of the year there was considerable accumulation of stocks in America, but in the United Kingdom an increased export demand, particularly from South America, and some renewal of activity in the ship building trade improved prospects. The world's production of **pig iron** in 1909 is estimated at 62 million tons as compared with 54 million tons in 1908 and 60 million tons in 1907. The price per ton of **Cleveland warrants** in the United Kingdom averaged 49*s*. $4\frac{5}{8}$*d*. in 1909 against 50*s*. $3\frac{1}{2}$*d*. in 1908. In April 1910, however, the price was 51*s*. 7*d*. as against 47*s*. 6*d*. in April 1909.

The price of **iron bars** (Swedish rolled) in Calcutta averaged R8-10 (11*s*. 6*d*.) per cwt against R8-6 (11*s*. 2*d*.) in 1908. The variations in prices corresponded very closely with those prevailing in Europe.

The following statement shows the total quantities and values of the

imports of iron and steel separately and conjointly in each of the last five years, (*000's omitted*) :—

| | Iron | | | Steel | | | Total | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | ₹ | £ | Tons | ₹ | £ | Tons | ₹ | £ |
| 1905-06 . . . | 236 | 3,40,77= | 2,272 | 285 | 3,23,62= | 2,157 | 521 | 6,64,39= | 4,429 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 261 | 4,31,83 | 2,879 | 263 | 3,24,99 | 2,167 | 524 | 7,56,82 | 5,046 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 276 | 4,96,69 | 3,311 | 341 | 4,78,47 | 3,190 | 617 | 9,75,16 | 6,501 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 262 | 4,75,94 | 3,173 | 349 | 4,28,45 | 2,856 | 611 | 9,04,39 | 6,029 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 282 | 4,96,89 | 3,313 | 320 | 3,87,20 | 2,581 | 602 | 8,84,09 | 5,894 |

The distinction between iron and steel in certain lines of goods presents considerable difficulties and has the further disadvantage of obscuring the statistics regarding the trade as a whole in certain articles which are made alternatively of either. The imports of iron increased by 20,851 tons and those of steel declined by 29,536 tons. The share of iron in the total value of the last three years has been 51, 53, and 56 per cent.

The average value per cwt of iron declined from ₹9-1-6 (12*s.* $1\frac{1}{2}$*d.*) to ₹8-12-9 (11*s.* 9*d.*) and that of steel from ₹6-2-1 (8*s.* $2\frac{1}{2}$*d.*) to ₹6-0-10 (8*s.* $\frac{6}{7}$*d.*).

From the statement below it will be seen that the arrivals from the United Kingdom increased by 24,683 tons or 7·1 per cent and now represent 61·4 per cent of the total quantity imported as compared with 56·5 per cent in 1908-09.

| | Total | | | United Kingdom | | | Germany and Belgium | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total |
| Bars . . . . . | 26,593 | 102,268 | 128,861 | 5,579 | 10,270 | 15,849 | 20,259 | 91,349 | 111,608 |
| Sheets and plates . . . | 1,630 | 84,841 | 86,471 | 488 | 44,929 | 45,417 | 1,130 | 39,540 | 40,670 |
| ,, ,, galvanised . | 124,377 | ... | 124,377 | 116,596 | ... | 116,596 | 2,853 | ... | 2,853 |
| ,, ,, tinned . . | 18,256 | ... | 18,256 | 18,248 | ... | 18,248 | 6 | ... | 6 |
| Hoop . . . . . | 3,184 | 19,044 | 22,228 | 1,612 | 16,121 | 17,733 | 1,564 | 2,197 | 3,761 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod . . . | 2,130 | ... | 2,130 | 462 | ... | 462 | 1,549 | ... | 1,549 |
| Angle, channel . . . . . | ... | 21,532 | 21,532 | ... | 12,435 | 12,435 | ... | 9,089 | 9,089 |
| Beams, etc. . . . . | 5,748 | 56,298 | 62,046 | 5,458 | 39,473 | 44,931 | 257 | 16,784 | 17,041 |
| Pipes and tubes . . . . | 37,519 | ... | 37,519 | 31,148 | ... | 31,148 | 203 | ... | 203 |
| Nails, etc. . . . . | 15,974 | ... | 15,974 | 3,659 | ... | 3,659 | 8,986 | ... | 8,986 |
| Other sorts . . . . . | 47,075 | 35,316 | 82,391 | 39,727 | 23,859 | 63,586 | 5,508 | 7,927 | 13,435 |
| Total for 1909-10 . | 282,486 | 319,299 | 601,785 | 222,977 | 147,087 | 370,064 | 42,315 | 166,886 | 209,201 |
| Total for 1908-09 . | 261,635 | 349,335 | 610,970 | 194,824 | 150,557 | 345,381 | 51,863 | 190,200 | 242,063 |

In **sheets and plates** the decline was one of 6,194 tons. In **tin plates** the United Kingdom has a market in itself and there is a small advance in quantity of 1,300 tons and in value of ₹2·42 lakhs (£16,000), which involves a fall in specific value of ·9 per cent. The imports of **galvanized iron sheets** were encouraged by a fall in prices due to the breakdown in the autumn of a big suppliers' combine, and both Calcutta and Madras record large increases under this head. **Beams, etc.,** show a decline of 10,381 tons which is almost entirely accounted for by smaller shipment from the United Kingdom. In **pipes and tubes** Great Britain contributed ₹49·64 lakhs (£331,000) and the United States ₹14·74 lakhs (£98,300). In **angle, channel, etc.,** the trade is evenly divided between Great Britain and her chief competitors. **Nails** come mainly from Germany and Belgium.

Bengal imported ₹28·9 lakhs (£193,000) more under iron, but ₹3·36 lakhs (£22,400) less under steel, than in 1908-09. Bombay shows an advance of ₹3·69 lakhs (£24,600) under iron, but her import of steel declined by ₹19·84 lakhs (£132,300). Sind also imported ₹3·11 lakhs (£20,700) of iron and ₹4·30 lakhs (£28,700) of steel less than in the previous year. The imports of steel into Burma also declined by ₹9·63 lakhs (£64,200) or 21 per cent. Madras imported iron worth ₹10·26 lakhs (£68,400) less than in 1908-09.

As a producer of pig iron India has not yet made a very great advance. The Bengal Iron and Steel Company have, however, for a number of years successfully operated two (and at times three) blast furnaces at Barrakar, producing foundry iron to the extent of 38,634 tons in 1909 as against 38,000 tons in 1908.

Substantial progress has been made with the great works of the Tata Iron and Steel Company at Sakchi in Bengal, but actual manufacture has not yet begun. Orders have, however, already been placed for rails, sleepers, fish plates, travelling cranes, stone crushers, etc., and the Government of India have undertaken to purchase annually for a minimum period of 10 years from the Company at least 20,000 tons of steel rails for the Government or State Railways only, subject to the Government specifications being complied with and prices comparing favourably with those at which similar rails could be delivered *c. i. f.* if imported into India.

**Lead.**—Though the price of **lead** continues steady at rates one-third lower than those which obtained in 1907, the imports into India have never again touched the level of 1905-06. The quotation for English pig lead in March 1909 was £13-15-0 and in March 1910 some three shillings lower—the highest and lowest variations in the interval being £14-3-9 in January and £12-18-9 in August.

In the year under review the total imports into India fell from 138,287 cwts, valued at R19·36 lakhs (£129,100), to 135,946 cwts, valued at R18·44 lakhs (£122,930). The decline is one of 1·7 per cent in quantity and 4·8 per cent in value and equivalent to a decline of 3·1 per cent in specific value, *i.e.*, from R14 (18*s.* 8*d.*) to R13-9 (18*s.* 1*d.*) per cwt.

The United Kingdom, which now almost monopolises the trade in **sheets for tea chests,** supplied 58,689 cwts valued at R8·36 lakhs (£55,700) as against 46,576 cwts valued at R7·57 lakhs (£50,500) in 1908-09. The total quantity increased by 7 per cent, but there was a decline of 6·6 per cent in the average value per unit. The price of British sheets fell from R16-4 (£1 1*s.* 8*d.*) to R14-4 (19*s.*) per cwt.

**Tin.**—The Malay Archipelago continues to be the principal producer, and India draws about 90 per cent of her requirements from the Straits. The imports slightly improved during the year from 37,142 cwts and R42·46 lakhs (£283,100) to 38,621 cwts and R44·17 lakhs (£294,500), showing an increase of 4 per cent both in quantity and value, the average value per cwt remaining steady at R114-5 annas (£7 12*s.* 5*d.*), while the price in London ranged between £131 2*s.* and £153 10*s.* per ton during the year. There was a larger import from the Straits of **unwrought block tin** of 34,650 cwts with a value of R39·13 lakhs (£260,800) as against 32,842 cwts with a value of R37·75 lakhs (£251,600) in 1908-09.

The quantity of **tin** raised in 1909-10 in the Mergui and Tavoy districts in Burma was 84 tons, valued at R1,44,681 (£9,645), as compared with 94 tons, valued at R1,63,497 (£10,900) in 1908-09, and 75 tons, valued at R1,72,830 (£11,522), in 1907-08. The figures do not suggest any substantial development of the industry. The ore was exported to the Straits Settlements for treatment.

Other metals which have not been enumerated above are **German silver** valued at R18·08 lakhs (£120,500), **Quicksilver** at R3·56 lakhs (£23,700), zinc R17·42 lakhs (£116,100), and **metal, unenumerated,** at R17·21 lakhs (£115,000), the last shewing an increase of R4·77 lakhs (£31,800) accounted for by increased imports of **aluminium** into the Madras Presidency from

2,275 cwts and R1·91 lakhs (£12,700) in 1908-09, to 4,477 cwts and R3·46 lakhs (£23,000) in 1909-10. Aluminium manufactures are being popularized for a variety of uses and the increased imports are attributed to a fall in the price of the metal in the United Kingdom.

**Machinery and millwork** (excluding that for railways) represents nearly 20 per cent of the total value of imported metals and manufactures thereof and 4·3 per cent of the imports of all merchandise, but there has been a decline in the year under review under every important sub-head and the total for the group is only R5·07 crores (£3·38 millions) as compared with R6·62 crores (£4·4 millions) in 1908-09.

**Textile machinery,** which continues to hold the first place and represents 42·4 per cent of the whole, receded by R72·45 lakhs (£483,000) or 25·2 per cent to R215·16 lakhs (£1,434,400), **steam engines and their component parts** by R25·48 lakhs (£169,800) to R83·11 lakhs (£554,000), **electrical machinery** by R3·72 lakhs (£24,800) to R31·75 lakhs (£211,700), **mining machinery** by R4·99 lakhs (£33,300) to R7·37 lakhs (£49,100), and the unspecified head **other sorts** by R47·78 lakhs (£318,500) to R169·79 lakhs (£1,132,000).

The United Kingdom coutinues to dominate the market, the supply therefrom being 93·6 per cent of the total. The United States and Germany supplied respectively 3 and 1·4 per cent.

Bombay's share comes to R197·73 lakhs (£1,318,200) or 39 per cent, Bengal's to R182 lakhs (£1,213,500)—the lowest value recorded since 1903-04—or 35·9 per cent, and that of Madras to R44·32 lakhs (£295,500) or 8·7 per cent. The other provinces shew increased absorption, Burma taking R57·54 lakhs (£383,600) or 11·3 per cent, Sind R20·55 lakhs (£137,000) or 4 per cent, and Eastern Bengal and Assam R5·02 lakhs (£33,500) or about one per cent of the total.

Under **textile machinery** the imports to Bombay amounted to R113·07 lakhs (£753,800) only in place of R135·33 lakhs (£902,200) in 1908-09. The decrease is ascribed to a temporary cessation in extensions and renewals of existing machinery on account of the unsettlement caused by the Dwarkadas Dharamsey failure. Bengal, which stood first in 1908-09 with R139·26 lakhs (£928,400), accounts for R85·04 (£566,900) only in the year under review, the decline under imports of machinery for jute mills being one of R48 lakhs (£320,000), while the extreme depression prevailing in the coal market accounts for a fall of R19 lakhs (£127,000) in the imports of mining machinery. Madras increased her share from R10·88 lakhs (£72,500) to R13·75 lakhs (£91,600), owing to the construction of new spinning mills at Coimbatore and Madura, and Sind from R2·13 lakhs (£14,200) to R3·3 lakhs (£22,000). Under **other sorts** of machinery are included beltings, printing and type-casting machines, tea garden machinery, oil and gas engines, steam cranes, machinery for railway workshops, and hydraulic presses. Imports of tea garden machinery into Bengal declined by R3 lakhs (£20,000), but those for Eastern Bengal and Assam showed an improvement. The increase in Burma and Sind was mainly due to the importation of hydraulic cranes for the Port Trust wharves at Rangoon and Karachi.

**Railway Material** forms 20·9 per cent of the total value of metals and manufactures imported during 1909-10. The progressive expansion in the imports of railway material, which was noticed in previous reviews, received a

temporary check. The total imports of material **for both State and non-State railways** have been in the last five years as follows (*in lakhs of rupees and thousands of pounds sterling*):

| | R | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . | 673·89 = | 4,493 |
| 1906-07 . . | 849·29 | 5,662 |
| 1907-08 . . | 988·74 | 6,592 |
| 1908-09 . . | 1,193·94 | 7,960 |
| 1909-10 . . | 838 | 5,587 |

The decline in the past twelve months was one of R355·9 lakhs (£2,373,000) or 29·8 per cent, due to the suspension of various extensions on account of a lean financial year. These figures include R328·18 lakhs (£2,188,000) for **rolling stock**, as against R651·42 lakhs (£4,343,000) in 1908-09.

In the twelve months 851·96 additional miles of **railway** were **opened**, while 2,898 miles were under construction or sanctioned on the last day of March 1910. On the same date, the total length of open lines in India amounted to 31,614 miles.

In 1909-10 the return on **capital expenditure** on Railways amounted to 4·5 per cent as compared with 3·7 per cent in 1908-09 and 4·7 per cent in 1907-08. The **Railway programme** for 1910-11 amounts to £10,866,700, namely, £7,875,800 for open lines including rolling stock, £2,424,200 for lines under construction, and £566,700 for new lines.

## IV.—CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES, NARCOTICS, DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS

**Chemicals.**—The total value of chemicals imported into India in 1909-10 was R80·46 lakhs (£536,400) as against R74·7 lakhs (£498,000) in 1908-09. The increase was shared by **sulphuric acid** and **soda compounds**. A lower level of prices stimulated imports of the latter. **Bicarbonate of soda** advanced from R3·99 lakhs (£26,600) to R4·84 lakhs (£32,300). **Caustic soda** also improved from R7·30 lakhs (£48,700) to R7·90 lakhs (£52,700). This trade is growing to meet the demands of soap and match factories. **Soda other sorts**, showed a remarkable increase from R8·01 lakhs (£53,400) to R10·99 lakhs (£73,200). **Sulphuric acid** rose from 61,099 cwts and R5·76 lakhs (£38,400) to 74,440 cwts and R7 lakhs (£46,600), but in the absence of any exact figures as to indigenous manufacture, this advance does not necessarily argue increased industrial activity. All acid factories in India have to import the **sulphur** necessary from abroad, chiefly from Sicily. The total imports of sulphur for all purposes in 1909-10 amounted to 73,531 cwts, valued at R3·75 lakhs (£25,000), as compared with 68,582 cwts valued at R3·43 lakhs (£22,870) in 1908-09. **Disinfectants** also improved, though slightly, from R3·03 lakhs (£20,200) to R3·18 lakhs (£21,200).

The following chemicals shew declines—**Bleaching materials** from R4·56 lakhs (£30,400) to R3·86 lakhs (£25,700), **Cyanide of Potassium** from R3·16 lakhs (£21,100) to R3·06 lakhs (£20,400), and **Calcium carbide** from R1·64 lakhs (£10,900) to R1·11 lakhs (£7,400). The omnibus heading **Chemicals, other sorts**, represents this year 32·6 per cent of the total in place of 35·4 per cent in 1908-09, the value receding from R26·42 lakhs (£176,100) to R26·27 lakhs (£175,100).

**Drugs and Medicines.**—The total value of **Drugs and medicines** imported into India advanced by R17·37 lakhs (£115,800), or nearly 24 per cent.,

to R90·19 lakhs (£601,300), which is the largest total previously recorded in any one year excepting 1907-08, when the value attained to R90·92 lakhs (£606,100). Of this total about 58 per cent is represented by **proprietary and patent medicines** and **other sorts** of drugs and medicines, of which values only are recorded in the accounts.

The imports of **camphor,** mostly from Hongkong and Japan, rose from 1,093,368 to 1,457,918 lbs and the value from R11·61 lakhs (£77,400) to R15·12 lakhs (£100,800), the advance being one of 364,550 lbs or 33·3 per cent in quantity and of R3·51 lakhs (£23,400) or 30·3 per cent in value, which is equivalent to a decline of 2·4 per cent in specific value. The price of camphor has undergone great vicissitudes in recent years. It ruled high prior to 1907 owing to the Japanese attempting to make a monopoly of the exports from Formosa, but the competition of synthetic camphor from Germany and a revival of the Chinese camphor trade brought prices down to what may be considered bottom levels. There was very little advance in the year under review, the quotation for Japanese 1 oz. tablets in London being 1*s.* 8*d.* in March 1910 as against 1*s.* 7½*d* twelve months ago, and it is doubtful whether synthetic camphor can be profitably manufactured at this competitive rate. Low prices account for the exceptionally large imports of refined cake into Bombay. The average declared value per lb was R1-1 (1*s.* 5*d.*) against R1-0-7 (1*s.* 4½*d.*) in 1908-09.

The imports of **quinine** rose by nearly 50 per cent to 120,112 lbs and R9·37 lakhs (£62,500), there being a rise of nearly one per cent in specific value. Java controls this market, and as supply has overtaken demand, prices during the year fell to the lowest level yet reached. The Governments of Bengal and Madras supplement the production from Darjeeling and the Nilgiris by imports from the Dutch Indies *viâ* Amsterdam.

The figures of bark and sulphate produced in India in the past three years have been as follows:—

| | Bark | Sulphate of quinine manufactured in | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Bengal | Madras |
| | lbs | lbs | lbs |
| 1907-08 . . | 987,095 | 27,564 | 20,546 |
| 1908-09 . . | 1,053,369 | 36,619 | 25,825 |
| 1909-10 . . | 917,071 | 23,099 | 27,477 |

The demand for this febrifuge in India and particularly in the United Provinces and Eastern Bengal is responding in the most marked way to the efforts made by Government to popularize its use.

**Proprietary and patent medicines** increased from R17·81 lakhs (£119,000) to R23·09 lakhs (£154,000). **Assafœtida** was imported to the extent of R3·11 lakhs (£20,700) as against R1·67 lakhs (£11,100) in 1908-09, and **other sorts** also rose from R26·23 lakhs (£175,000) to R28·59 lakhs (£190,600).

Imports of **cocaine** amounted to 1,074 ounces valued at R9,062 (£604) against 1,993 ounces valued at R13,383 (£892) in 1908-09. The 'cocaine habit' is said to be spreading in Burma, and the seizure by the Customs House at Rangoon of over 1,300 oz. during the year suggests that there is a good deal of smuggling and illicit trade in the drug in that province.

**Dyes.**—The imports of **aniline and alizarine dyes,** of which a decline was noticed during 1908-09, made a marked recovery in the year under review,

and exceeded the record figures for 1907-08. The quantity rose by 15·5 per cent from 11,932,409 to 13,775,957 lbs – of which 50·8 per cent is represented by aniline—and the value by 8·3 per cent from R80·48 lakhs (£536,500) to R87·19 lakhs (£581,300). Increased imports are ascribed to the developments in the dyeing industry in this country—in Madura, for example, where Manchester yarns are imported and dyed in preference to purchasing the dyed imported yarns. The average declared value per lb of aniline rose from 12 annas (1*s*) to 12 annas 8 pies (1*s* 0⅔*d*), while that of alizarine declined from 8 annas 8 pies (8⅔*d*) to 8 annas 4 pies (8⅓*d*). The source of supply of these products is chiefly Germany, though a large proportion is imported through Antwerp (Belgium), and Bombay continues the principal port of entry, her share being nearly 77·5 per cent of the total.

**Cochineal** declined by R97,642 (£6,510) to R1·87 lakhs (£12,500) in value and in quantity by 48·5 per cent from 4,477 to 2,304 cwts. **Gambier** made a considerable advance from R5·19 lakhs (£34,600) to R7·09 lakhs (£47,300), and **saffron** showed a small increase of R31,726 (£2,110). The imports of **synthetic indigo** have progressed from R97,539 (£6,500) in 1907-08 to R2·57 lakhs (£17,000) in 1909-10.

**Tobacco.**—The duty on this article was enhanced by Act VIII of 1910 from the general rate of 5 per cent *ad valorem* to specific rates, on the analogy of those obtaining in the United Kingdom, with effect from the 25th February. The change came too late to make any marked impression upon the trade statistics of the year under review, though several large consignments received thereafter, which have swelled the import figures, were bonded and subsequently reshipped to China. In Calcutta, for example, out of 46 million cigarettes bonded in March, duty was paid upon 6½ millions only and the balance re-exported.

The imports of **tobacco** increased by 1,771,293 lbs or 31·9 per cent to 7,328,656 lbs and by R15·4 lakhs (£102,700) or 19·4 per cent to R94·82 lakhs (£632,100). Of the total imports of tobacco 68·5 per cent is represented by cigarettes. The decline which was recorded in the previous review in the imports of **foreign cigarettes** was temporarily arrested. The quantity increased from 2,995,692 to 3,083,746 lbs or by 3 per cent and the value from R57·79 lakhs (£385,300) to R64·99 lakhs (£433,300) or 12·5 per cent, specific value showing a percentage increase of 9·2 per cent, which is probably due to a larger proportion of the better class cigarettes in the total, for the bazaar was being catered for with productions which were being sold wholesale at rates varying between R1·2 to 2 (1*s* 6*d* to 2*s* 8*d*) per thousand.

It is estimated that the total imports represent 1,228 million cigarettes as compared with 1,400 millions in 1907-08 and 1,200 millions in 1908-09, but the much larger imports of unmanufactured foreign leaf suggest that the decline is to some extent made good by manufacture in India. The opinion is commonly held that in Northern India there is a general tendency now-a-days to abandon the *hookah* in favour of the cigarette or the *biri*. The Peninsular Tobacco Company's factory at Monghyr (formerly at Karachi) is said to have turned out 750 million cigarettes last year, and the Rangpur Tobacco Company's factory dealing with Bengal tobacco has a potential capacity of outturn of a million cigarettes a week.

There are, it has been calculated, nearly 1,100,000 acres under tobacco in India, but the qualities produced are for the most part of very inferior descrip-

tions, and the attempts made by Government, notably in Bengal, to acclimatise high class exotic varieties have not hitherto been very successful. One effect of the new tobacco duties should be to encourage the opening of cigarette factories depending entirely for their supplies upon indigenous leaf, and under the stimulus of higher prices cultivators may be expected to pay more attention to the drying, fermentation, and other processes preparatory to sale.

Of the total values the United Kingdom accounted for R48·56 lakhs (£324,000) and the United States R11·37 lakhs (£75,800), but these do not correctly represent the proportion of English and American made cigarettes imported. The imports from Egypt, whence only better class cigarettes are obtained, were valued at R4·33 lakhs (£28,900) as compared with R3·83 lakhs (£25,500) in 1908-09. The imports from the Further East aggregated R17,000 (£1,100). Aden is coming forward as a cigarette manufacturing depôt. Of her total exports last year of 15,000,000 cigarettes, a large proportion came to Bombay.

The average value per lb from the principal sources was, Egyptian R6-7-3 (8*s* 7¼*d*), British R2-4-10 (3*s* ⅝*d*), American R1-4-6 (1*s* 8½*d*), and East Indian R1-14-4 (2*s* 6⅓*d*). A pound represents about 400 cigarettes of low quality and 300 of the superior grades. The consumption of the latter and of the better tobaccos is not likely to be affected by the new duty.

There was a large increase in the imports of **unmanufactured leaf** from 1,212,640 lbs and R6·45 lakhs (£43,000) to 2,703,254 lbs and R11·66 lakhs (£77,700), due to larger imports of low grade tobacco from Ceylon and the United States. The leaf imported from Sumatra and Borneo is chiefly used as "wrappers" for Trichinopoly cheroots, the "fillers" being made of Indian grown tobacco.

**Cigars** are mainly imported from Holland (R1,30,297=£8,686), Belgium (R61,988=£4,132), and the United Kingdom (R70,641=£4,709). Imports of Manila cigars *viâ* Hongkong amounted to 17,911 lbs, valued at R65,475 (£4,365), besides a direct import of 8,870 lbs, valued at R27,608 (£1,841), from the Philippines.

## V.—OILS

The trade in **oils** represents about 3 per cent of the total value of merchandise imported into India.

Under this head the only item of importance is **mineral oils** with a total value of R314·55 lakhs (£2,097,000) as compared with R390·91 lakhs (£2,606,000) in 1908-09. Of this **Kerosene oil** accounts for nearly 80 per cent of the total, though the imports declined from 83·58 to 64·05 million gallons and from R333·25 lakhs (£2,221,700) to R251·11 lakhs (£1,674,000). The figures very nearly reached the level of 1907-08. The decline may be ascribed partly to the carry over of heavy stocks from the preceding year, but seems to be due chiefly to the intervention of several new competing interests from Burma which were not restricted by understandings with older participants either as to their sphere of operations or scale of prices.

The discovery of oil at Maikop (in the Caucasus), the successful proving of the Red Sea Oilfield, and the conflict of interests in Mexico between the Pearson and Waters Pierce groups temporarily made the industry a speculative medium on the London Stock Exchange only less active than rubber, and this activity finds a parallel in Burma, where during the last two years no fewer than seven new companies have been floated.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of kerosene imported in each of the last three years, together with the imports into India proper from Burma, *the unit being 1,000 :—*

| | Quantity | | | Value | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1907-08 Gals. | 1908-09 Gals. | 1909-10 Gals. | 1907-08 R | £ | 1908-09 R | £ | 1909-10 R | £ |
| Foreign— | | | | | | | | | |
| United States | 24,278 | 33,915 | 41,259 | 1,19,92 | = 800 | 1.67,58 | = 1,117 | 1,77,00 | = 1,180 |
| Borneo | 7,944 | 6,427 | 6,985 | 21,10 | 141 | 18,61 | 124 | 23,24 | 155 |
| Straits Settlements | 6,086 | 10,855 | 6,577 | 15,60 | 104 | 32,57 | 217 | 17,75 | 118 |
| Sumatra | 2,041 | 9,096 | 4,692 | 7,06 | 47 | 33 53 | 224 | 15,37 | 103 |
| Russia | 9,377 | 7,004 | 3,304 | 34,68 | 231 | 26,97 | 180 | 13,87 | 92 |
| Roumania | 15,699 | 16,284 | 1,223 | 53,73 | 358 | 53,99 | 360 | 3,84 | 26 |
| Other Countries | 4 | ... | 4 | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 4 | ... |
| TOTAL | 65,431 | 83,581 | 64,050 | 2,52,14 | 1,681 | 3,33,25 | 2,222 | 2,51,11 | 1,674 |
| Coastwise from Burma | 64,556 | 62,279 | 81,275 | 2,30,56 | 1,537 | 2.25,12 | 1,501 | 2,52,69 | 1,684 |

From the foregoing table it will be seen that, excluding Burma's internal consumption of indigenous oil, which is not ascertainable, India in the last three years absorbed on an average some 140 million gallons of kerosene per annum. Burma contributed 55·8 per cent of the total imports as against 42 per cent in the previous year and the coasting trade was in excess of the previous year's figures by 30·6 per cent. These figures are interesting when it is remembered that her oil production probably represented in 1909 no more than 4 per cent of the world's total.

The imports of foreign kerosene oil declined by 19·53 million gallons or 23·4 per cent, and the specific value by 1·8 per cent, while the quantity shipped from Burma to India proper increased by 24·2 per cent.

The direct imports from the **United States** have been unaffected by the general decline. She has maintained the first place amongst the countries supplying foreign oil, accounting for 64·4 per cent of the total imports, in place of 40·5 per cent in 1908-09. She increased her shipments by 7·34 million gallons or 21·6 per cent in quantity and by R9·43 lakhs (£63,000) or 5·6 per cent in value, the decline in specific value being 13·2 per cent.

**Borneo** and **Sumatra** with **Singapore** as an entrepôt, if grouped together, take the second place as a source of supply of kerosene to India. The import from this region amounted to 18·25 million gallons or 28·5 per cent of the total. As compared with 1908-09, this shows a decline of 8·12 million gallons or 30·8 per cent in quantity and of R28·35 lakhs (£189,000) in value.

The shipments from **Roumania** and **Russia** depend so entirely upon the requirements and convenience of the two leading oil corporations that no importance attaches to the decline in imports from these sources. The Russian imports amounted in the year under review to 3·3 million gallons or 5·1 per cent of the total trade. The decline was one of 3·7 million gallons or 52·8 per cent in quantity and of R13·1 lakhs (£87,300) in value. The arrivals from Roumania fell from 16·28 million gallons and R53·99 lakhs (£359,900) to 1·23 million gallons only, valued at R3·84 lakhs (£25,600). In the twelve months a large proportion of Roumanian oil has been diverted to the United Kingdom.

In 1909-10 **Bulk oil** amounted to 47·83 million gallons, representing 74·7 per cent of the whole. Of this the United States contributed 55·3 per cent, Sumatra, Borneo and the Straits together 35·2 per cent Russia 6·9, and Roumania 2·6 per cent.

The imports of **Case oil** aggregated 16·22 million gallons or 25·3 per cent of the total foreign imports, the United States supplying 91·4 per cent, and Borneo and the Straits the remaining 8·6 per cent.

The following are the average prices of the principal descriptions of kerosene sold in Calcutta during the last three years:

| | | 1907-08 | | | | | 1908-09 | | | | | 1909-10 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | a. | p. | s. | d. | ₹ | a. | p. | s. | d. | ₹ | a. | p. | s. | d. |
| *American*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Snowflake | case | 5 | 15 | 0=7 | 11 | | 6 | 2 | 0=8 | 2 | | 6 | 3 | 0=8 | 3 | |
| Chester | „ | 4 | 8 | 8 | 6 | $0\frac{2}{3}$ | 4 | 10 | 2 | 6 | $2\frac{1}{6}$ | 4 | 11 | 2 | 6 | $3\frac{1}{6}$ |
| *Russian*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ram | „ | 4 | 4 | 10 | 5 | $8\frac{5}{6}$ | 4 | 3 | 11 | 5 | $7\frac{11}{12}$ | | ... | | ... | |
| *Burma*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Victoria | 2 tins | 3 | 7 | 10 | 4 | $7\frac{5}{6}$ | 3 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 11 | 3 | $4\frac{11}{12}$ |
| Gold Mohur | „ | 3 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 9 | 5 | $1\frac{3}{4}$ | 2 | 15 | 5 | 3 | $11\frac{5}{12}$ |
| *Borneo*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cobra | „ | 3 | 8 | 11 | 4 | $8\frac{11}{12}$ | 3 | 10 | 5 | 4 | $10\frac{5}{12}$ | 2 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| *Sumatra*— | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Silver light | case | 5 | 12 | 0 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 6 | $8\frac{1}{12}$ | 5 | 1 | 10 | 6 | $9\frac{5}{6}$ |

The prices of the high grades of American and Sumatra oil, representing about 5 per cent of the total volume of trade, were well maintained in the year under review, but for the lower grades increased competition led to vigorous rate cutting with a general fall in values and some congestion of supplies. The duty on imported kerosene oil was raised from 1 anna to $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas per gallon under Act VIII of 1910 towards the close of the year, but it would be premature to predict its effect on the trade, while the question of a corresponding excise duty upon Burma oil is still under consideration.

Under **"other mineral oils,"** a head which includes fuel and lubricating oils and paraffin wax, imported during 1909-10, there was an increase of 15·4 per cent from 10·35 to 11·95 million gallons. The expansion is due in part to heavy consignments of batching oil for the jute mills round Calcutta and in part to an anticipated increase in railway requirements, and the year closed with considerable accumulation of stocks both at Budge Budge and up country. Burma's exports of lubricating oil to India proper increased by 1,469,613 gallons or 46 per cent to 4,665,030 gallons.

The imports of **fuel oil** from Borneo (83·5 per cent) and the Straits as entrepôt (16·5 per cent) receded from 2·91 to 1·48 million gallons with a value of ₹1·58 lakhs (£10,500). Of this Bombay took 673,162 gallons, Madras 563,897 gallons, and Bengal 244,351 gallons.

The imports of **paraffin wax** amounted to 14,530 cwts as compared with 2,236 cwts in 1908-09. The coastwise imports from Burma amounted to 2,990 cwts only.

There has been a steady decline in the imports of **vegetable oils**, especially in **cocoanut oils**, imported from Ceylon and the Seychelles, the trade in which is now almost negligible, having fallen from ₹28·96 lakhs (£193,100) in 1907-08 to ₹72,247 (£4,816) in 1909-10. The value of **linseed oil** imported declined from ₹6·72 lakhs (£44,800) to ₹5·93 lakhs (£39,530).

## VI.—RAW MATERIALS AND UNMANUFACTURED ARTICLES

**Coal** represents 15·1 per cent of the value of raw materials imported into India as against 17·2 per cent twelve months ago. This is not due to any recovery of the internal markets by country coal, but marks, it is to be feared, restricted industrial activity in several branches of trade. India's imports declined from 455,806 tons, valued at ₹82·25 lakhs (£548,300), to 428,535

tons, valued at R72·61 lakhs (£484,100). The decrease in quantity is one of 6 per cent and in value 11·7 per cent. The United Kingdom has an increasing share of the trade, her shipments amounting to 301,509 tons as compared with 220,139 tons in 1908-09, which partly made up the shortage in consignments from Australia which fell from 145,796 to 27,189 tons. The Natal trade continues to expand, the figures for the year under review being 78,569 tons as compared with 71,367 tons in 1908-09. The shipments of Japan coal continue insignificant. The imports of British coal as Government stores amounted to 26,365 tons as against 18,122 tons in 1908-09 and 1,477 tons in 1907-08.

The figures given below are taken from the Bombay market report to illustrate comparative prices per ton of Cardiff, Bengal (Desherghur), and Natal coal at that port during the last three years :—

| | Bengal | | | | | | Cardiff | | | | | | Natal | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | a. | p. | £ | s. | d. | R | a. | p. | £ | s. | d. | R | a. | p. | £ | s. | d. |
| 1907 . | 15 | 11 | 0=1 | 0 | 11 | | 21 | 11 | 0=1 | 8 | 11 | | — | | | — | | |
| 1908 . | 15 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 21 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 0⅓ | 16 | 10 | 8=1 | 2 | 2⅔ | |
| 1909 . | 13 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 11 | 17 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 15 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6⅙ |

**Cotton.**—The imports of cotton fell off from 125,487 cwts with a value of R53·03 lakhs (£353,500) in 1908-09 to 93,994 cwts, valued at R33·58 lakhs (£223,900), in 1909-10. It is difficult to reconcile the decline of 15·5 per cent in the specific value per unit with the rise which took place last year in the price of this staple owing to the shortage in the American and Egyptian crops, except upon the supposition that buying in the higher counts was so restricted that the usual proportion of fine qualities does not come into statistical consideration.

The importation was equal to 1·5 per cent of the total mill consumption in the year ending September 1909. Assuming that the 50,767 cwts received from the United Kingdom were of American origin, the total with the small direct shipments of 243 cwts from the United States represents 54·3 per cent of the total importation as compared with 70 per cent in 1908-09. Persia sent 19,028 cwts in place of 6,572 cwts in 1908-09, but Egypt supplied 10,017 cwts only as against 25,436 cwts in the previous year. The consignments aggregating 6,347 cwts from Belgium, which last entered this market in 1904-05 when there was an import of 9,189 cwts, were of American waste.

**Precious stones and pearls, unset.**—The figures as recorded in the trade accounts cannot be considered complete as it is well known that large quantities of precious stones, and pearls in particular, are imported and exported in such a manner as to escape registration. The variations in recorded values introduced another element of inaccuracy. There was in the year under review some revival in this trade, and the total value of the imports advanced from R51·62 lakhs (£344,100) to R80·6 lakhs (£537,300) or by 56·1 per cent. The imports from Bahrein Island, Arabia, the Persian Gulf, and Aden, which consist chiefly of pearls, account for R75·11 lakhs (£500,700) or 93·2 per cent of this total. The trade in **rubies** continued dull throughout the year and the balance of receipts over expenditure was not sufficient to enable the Burma Ruby Mines Co. to pay its outstanding royalties to Government. In regard to the production of **precious stones or gems** in India, this Company's operations, for which alone reliable statistics are available, shew during 1909 210,375 carats of **rubies** won valued at R9,51,806 (£63,454), 14,396 carats of **sapphires,**

valued at R12,021 (£801), and 40,239 carats of **spinels** worth R8,566 (£571), as compared with 165,894 carats of rubies of a value of R7,02,325 (£46,821), 16,399 carats of sapphires worth R8,898 (£593), and 28,910 carats of spinels valued at R7,579 (£505) in 1908. At Boulogne synthetic rubies and sapphires are now being manufactured on a commercial scale by the Bernueil process. The value of **diamonds** obtained from the mines in Central India amounted to 147 carats valued at R16,329 (£1,089) in 1909 as compared with 140 carats valued at R14,105 (£940) in 1908.

**Silk.**—As in 1908-09, the low level of silk prices throughout the world seems to have stimulated imports. In quantity the increase was one of 7·5 per cent from 2,168,458 lbs in 1908-09 to 2,330,185 lbs in 1909-10, but the value fell by 4·1 per cent from R101·89 lakhs (£679,200) to R97·7 lakhs (£651,300), which involves a decline of 10·8 per cent in specific value. Bombay's share amounted to R79·83 lakhs (£532,200) and that of Burma to R17·51 lakhs (£117,000). Direct imports from China increased by 15·5 per cent from 1,774,526 lbs in 1908-09 to 2,050,439 lbs in 1909-10 which is 88 per cent of the total, but shipments from the Straits fell by 23·8 per cent from 251,182 to 191,431 lbs, representing 8·2 per cent of the total imports.

**Wood.**—The imports of **wood unmanufactured,** consisting chiefly of timber, declined by R6·58 lakhs (£43,900) or 8·9 per cent to R67·16 lakhs (£447,700), due chiefly to a further contraction in the foreign supplies of **teak,** which have been more than made good, as the following table shews, by coastwise imports from Rangoon. As, however, the chief importers have sources of supply in Siam as well as Burma, no particular satisfaction can be attached to the figures.

| | Foreign imports by sea | | | Coastwise imports from Burma | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | cub. tons | ₹ | £ | cub. tons | ₹ | £ |
| 1905-06 . | 71,676 | 62,17,000 | =414,000 | 85,637 | 82,54,000 | =550,000 |
| 1906-07 . | 61,696 | 60,71,000 | 405,000 | 95,191 | 89,18,000 | 594,000 |
| 1907-08 . | 62,946 | 58,40,000 | 388,000 | 105,092 | 1,01,96,000 | 680,000 |
| 1908-09 . | 49,965 | 47,79,000 | 319,000 | 128,758 | 1,14,37,000 | 762,000 |
| 1909-10 . | 44,493 | 40,97,000 | 273,000 | 127,478 | 1,20,84,000 | 805,000 |

The imports of **Teak** declined from 49,965 cub. tons and R47·79 lakhs (£318,600) to 44,493 cub. tons and R40·97 lakhs (£273,100), representing 61 per cent of the whole. The decrease is one of 10·9 per cent in quantity and 14·3 per cent in value equivalent to a fall in average value of 3·7 per cent. Of this Siam supplied 35,515 cub. tons valued at R33·11 lakhs (£220,700) or 80·8 per cent, and Java 8,753 cub. tons and R7·65 lakhs (£51,000) or 18·6 per cent. On the other hand, the trade in **timber other than teak** has advanced from 42,400 cub. tons and R24·55 lakhs (£163,700) to 44,686 cub. tons and R25·02 lakhs (£166,800), representing a rise of 5·4 per cent in quantity and 2 per cent in value, with a fall of 3·3 per cent in specific value. The rise was due to larger shipments from Australia, chiefly in the form of railway sleepers, which amounted to 8,010 cub. tons valued at R5·77 lakhs (£38,500), as against 6,319 cub. tons valued at R4·66 lakhs (£31,000) in 1908-09. But imports from the Straits declined to 11,319 cub. tons with R5·7 lakhs (£38,000) and from the United States of America to 7,487 cub. tons worth R2·89 lakhs (£19,300), while Norway supplied only 2,112 cub. tons valued at R1·66 lakhs (£11,000) as compared with 2,530 cub. tons and R1·93 lakhs (£12,800) in 1908-09. The last Forest Administration report of the Punjab drew attention to the remarkable

fact that imported Norwegian planks can compete successfully with the local Himalayan timbers even in a station so remote from a port as Dharmsala.

**Ivory.**—Of other raw materials imported **Ivory** needs special mention as its value rose from ₹15.15 lakhs (£101,000) to ₹28·07 lakhs (£187,000) in addition to ₹2·91 lakhs (£19,400), the value of ivory manufactures, chiefly bangles and rings for the Hindu women of Cutch and Kathiawar. Bombay is the chief port of entry for tusks and it is interesting to record that the Delhi trade prefers African to Indian ivory as being less liable to cracks and discolouration.

## VII.—ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

**Cotton goods** maintain their position of preponderance among imports of manufactured articles. On the average of the last three years they represent no less than 66·4 per cent of the total values of this class and about 34 per cent of the total values of all the imports. In the year under review the Lancashire, American, and Continental markets continued in a state of great depression, spinners and manufacturers alike being affected by discouraging and irregular demand and an extraordinarily narrow margin between the prices of raw material and of the finished products. The number of spindles in Lancashire, which totalled about 114 millions in 1901, had grown in 1909 to 131½ millions, the growth in nine years being one of 15·3 per cent. The increase in looms in the same period has been even greater, and the trade stagnation during the year under review was largely due to the accumulations of persistent over-production. As regards the Indian trade, prices continued low and unremunerative to importers, and the expectations of large clearances consequent on a favourable monsoon were hardly realised, though there were occasional interludes, chiefly in Bengal, of brisk trading, and the year closed with stocks appreciably lower than twelve months earlier. An expansion in the shipments of Indian piecegoods by sea from Bombay to other provinces should not be taken to imply any marked revival of the *swadeshi* movement.

The aggregate value of the imports of cotton yarn and of woven and other cotton goods in the last five years has been as follows, *the unit being 1,000:*

| | Yarn | | Woven and other goods | | Total | | Proportion of total imports of merchandise |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| 1905-06 | 3,42,54 = | 2,283 | 39,01,77 = | 26,012 | 42,44,31 = | 28,295 | 41 per cent |
| 1906-07 | 3,22,32 | 2,149 | 37,69,43 | 25,129 | 40,91,75 | 27,278 | 38 „ |
| 1907-08 | 3,69,32 | 2,462 | 44,34,93 | 29,566 | 48,04,25 | 32,028 | 37 „ |
| 1908-09 | 3,64,88 | 2,432 | 34,36,58 | 22,911 | 38,01,46 | 25,343 | 31 „ |
| 1909-10 | 3,31,96 | 2,213 | 36,05,09 | 24,034 | 39,37,05 | 26,247 | 34 „ |

The increase in 1909-10 was one of ₹1·36 crores (£906,000) or 3·6 per cent

In **yarns,** however, there was a quantitative decline of 1,238,195 lbs or 2·9 per cent, though the imports into Bombay were over 3 million lbs in excess of those for 1908-09. The total values fell by ₹32·93 lakhs (£219,500) or 9 per cent, the decline in specific value being equivalent to 6·3 per cent. The quantities imported in each of the last five years are shown below in millions of pounds:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . . 45·78 | 1908-09 . . . . 41·52 |
| 1906-07 . . . 37 67 | 1909-10 . . . . 40·29 |
| 1907-08 . . . 37·32 | |

The United Kingdom supplied 91 per cent of the yarn imported, but her total decreased from 37,395,000 to 36,651,000 lbs. Of this total undyed yarn represents about 60·1 per cent and with some development of the dyeing industry in the country this proportion is likely to be increased in future years. The United Kingdom supplied 98 per cent of the undyed and 80 per cent of the dyed yarns.

A comparison is made below of the imports of coarse, medium, and fine yarns with the production of similar descriptions by Indian mills. The high prices of American and Egyptian cotton no doubt explain the setback in the local manufacture of higher counts during the last twelve months.

| | 1907-08 | per cent | 1908-09 | per cent | 1909-10 | per cent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 25—Imported | 2,380 | ·41 | 4,095 | ·68 | 2,410 | ·42 |
| Indian | 579,309 | 99·59 | 597,608 | 99·32 | 574,706 | 99·58 |
| | | 581,689 = 86·58 | | 601,703 = 86·46 | | 577,116 = 86·98 |
| Nos. 26 to 40—Imported | 23,957 | 29·94 | 25,668 | 31·73 | 26,200 | 34·85 |
| Indian | 56,053 | 70·06 | 55,239 | 68·27 | 48,989 | 65·15 |
| | | 80,010 = 11·91 | | 80,907 = 11·63 | | 75,189 = 11·33 |
| Above 40—Imported | 7,470 | 73·4 | 8,580 | 64·62 | 7,625 | 67·93 |
| Indian | 2,707 | 26·6 | 4,697 | 35·38 | 3,599 | 32·07 |
| | | 10,177 = 1·51 | | 13,277 = 1·91 | | 11,224 = 1·69 |
| | | 671,876 = 100 | | 695,887 = 100 | | 663,529 = 100 |

**Cotton fabrics** represent 30·8 per cent of the total value of private merchandise imported as compared with 28·3 per cent in 1908-09. The total value rose from R3,436·58 lakhs (£22,910,500) to R3,605·09 lakhs (£24,034,000), the increase being one of R168·52 lakhs (£1,123,500) or nearly 5 per cent. Some descriptions of cotton goods are not statistically recorded in yards. It is therefore convenient when considering changes of specific value to confine the calculation to piece-goods. The imports of these amounted to 2,192,698,317 yards and R3,388·51 lakhs (£22,590,100) against 1,992,513,483 yards and R3,221·91 lakhs (£21,479,400) in 1908-09. The advance amounts to 200·18 million yards and R166·59 lakhs (£1,110,600), which figures represent an advance of 10·1 per cent in quantity and 5·2 per cent in total value, accompanied by a decline of 4·9 per cent in specific value. These ratios vary in respect of diverse classes. For example, the specific value of grey goods declined by 2·8 per cent, coloured goods by 4·7 per cent, and white goods by 4·3 per cent.

The following statement shows in *millions of yards* the relative importance of these three classes in the course of the last twenty-one years :—

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured, printed or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average 1889-90 to 1893-94 | 1,223·47 | 368·63 | 374·17 | 62 |
| „ 1894-95 „ 1898-99 | 1,209·77 | 418·59 | 351·49 | 61 |
| „ 1899-1900 „ 1903-04 | 1,204·53 | 469·69 | 430·57 | 57 |
| „ 1904-05 „ 1908-09 | 1,230·71 | 572·66 | 515·44 | 53 |
| In the year 1909-10 | 1,236·83 | 493·04 | 462·83 | 56·4 |

Grey goods advanced by 18·6 per cent and white goods by 3·2 per cent, while coloured goods declined by 2·1 per cent. Bengal took as much as 951,831,331 yards of grey goods or 76·9 per cent of the total as compared with 731,835,000 yards and 70·2 per cent in 1908-09.

The following statement shows in *millions of yards* figures for the past two years relating to the principal descriptions of imported goods belonging to these three classes under the present system of classification :

| | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|
| *Grey (unbleached)*— | | |
| Chadars | 1·44 | 3·34 |
| Dhutis, Saris, and scarves | 462·35 | 604·31 |
| Jaconets, including madapollams, mulls, and cambrics | 100·34 | 115·48 |
| Drills and jeans | 17·69 | 19·1 |
| Sheetings | ·18 | ·65 |
| T. cloth and domestics | 6·81 | 8·55 |
| Longcloth and shirtings | 451·6 | 483·54 |
| Printers | ·15 | ·22 |
| Unspecified | 1·72 | 1·64 |
| Total | 1,042·29 | 1,236·83 |
| *White (bleached)*— | | |
| Chadars | ·69 | ·45 |
| Dhutis, saris, and scarves | 51·73 | 57·19 |
| Nainsooks | 135·21 | 166·32 |
| Jaconets, madapollams, mulls, cambrics, and muslins | 151·65 | 141·98 |
| Twills | 2·92 | 2·08 |
| Drills and jeans | 3·74 | 3·66 |
| Sheetings | ·23 | ·16 |
| T. cloth and domestics | ·03 | ·01 |
| Longcloth and shirtings | 106·27 | 94·31 |
| Checks, spots, and stripes | 8·62 | 9·49 |
| Unspecified | 16·66 | 17·39 |
| Total | 477·75 | 493·04 |
| *Coloured, printed or dyed*— | | |
| Chadars | ·1 | ·14 |
| Dhutis (including lungis) | 29·19 | 28·28 |
| Saris and scarves | 51·29 | 43·48 |
| Cambrics, including muslins, mulls, and jaconets | 64·97 | 82·23 |
| Drills and jeans | 11·48 | 14·59 |
| Twills | 24·91 | 21·07 |
| Prints and chintz | 127·95 | 121·66 |
| Shirtings | 71·21 | 75·61 |
| Other sorts | 91·38 | 75·77 |
| Total | 472·48 | 462·83 |

Among grey goods the total marks a return almost to the figure of 1907-08 but dhutis and saris have prospered at the expense of longcloth and jaconets. In white goods the figures for 1909-10 are very much below those for 1907-08. Nainsooks have made some recovery but there has been a further fall under longcloth and jaconets. As regards coloured and printed goods the decline in total values continues. The totals for cambrics and shirtings are larger than the figures for 1907-08. Chintzes have again fallen.

The following table compares the production of **Indian** mills with **foreign** imports in 1909-10, *in millions of yards* :—

| | Indian | Foreign |
|---|---|---|
| Grey goods<br>White „ | 771·13 | 1,236·83<br>493·04 |
| Dyed „ | 192·33 | 462·83 |

There has been some increase in recent years in the output of dhutis, longcloth, and shirtings, but jaconets and cambrics are two prominent import lines which have not been challenged by local manufacturers. Indian bleached

goods are an almost negligible item and in dyed goods the disparity is very marked and the qualities produced are much below the Lancashire standard.

The extent to which the cotton goods of the three main classes are derived from the United Kingdom is noted below *in millions of yards*:—

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom |
| Unbleached goods | 1,253·79 | 1,247·38 | 1,042·29 | 1,032·62 | 1,236·83 | 1,224·64 |
| Bleached „ | 733·52 | 721·99 | 477·75 | 466·19 | 493·04 | 483·29 |
| Coloured „ | 544·41 | 517·8 | 472·48 | 441·99 | 462·82 | 432·87 |

Great Britain therefore supplies 99 per cent of the greys, 98 per cent of the whites, and 93·5 per cent of the coloured goods. All of these percentages are practically the same as recorded in the last year but lower than those recorded in 1907-08.

Besides these there are some subsidiary classes of goods imported, the principal descriptions of which and the value of the respective trades were *in thousands*:—

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece | 40,59 | =270·6 | 44,95 | =299·7 | 32,44 | =216·3 |
| Hosiery | 67,27 | 448·5 | 63,45 | 423 | 69,92 | 466·1 |
| Sewing thread | 28,46 | 189·7 | 28,17 | 187·8 | 29,80 | 199 |
| Other manufactures | 94,24 | 628·3 | 78,09 | 520·6 | 84,43 | 563 |

This branch of the trade therefore showed a net advance of ₹1·92 lakhs (£12,800) or 1 per cent. The United Kingdom supplies 80·8 per cent of the **handkerchiefs and shawls** and 86 per cent of the **sewing thread**. But of the total it does only 44·7 per cent, seeing that the considerable trade in **hosiery** is practically monopolised by Japan and Continental countries. Japan supplied hosiery to the value of ₹45·41 lakhs (£302,700) against ₹35·34 lakhs (£235,600) in 1908-09; and goods to the value of ₹46,000 (£3,100), which came *viâ* Hongkong and the Straits, were probably also of Japanese origin. Germany's share in this trade fell from ₹11·16 lakhs (£74,400) to ₹10·12 lakhs (£67,500).

**Silk goods.**—The outturn of raw silk in China and Japan was very large, and with a falling-off in the American demand, prices fell in spite of the shortage in Continental supplies caused by the destruction of the silk filatures at Messina. Business in French and Italian silk fabrics was dull throughout the year and this reacted on the Indian trade. The imports of **silk goods** fell short of the previous year's level by ₹1·44 lakhs (£9,600) or ·6 per cent, the total value being ₹226·69 lakhs (£1,511,300), which represents 5·1 per cent of the total textile manufactures. Of this **silk piecegoods** increased in value from ₹145·56 lakhs (£970,400) to ₹153·67 lakhs (£1,024,500), representing 67·8 per cent of the whole. This increase of ₹8·11 lakhs (£54,000) was made up by larger consignments from China to the extent of ₹4·9 lakhs (£32,700), from France ₹4 lakhs (£26,700), and from Japan ₹1·5 lakhs (£10,000), the United Kingdom reducing her shipments by ₹2·12 lakhs (£14,100) to ₹3·10 lakhs (£20,700) and the Straits from ₹82,092 (£5,473) to ₹71,451 (£4,763). The imports from the Far East represented 91·3 per

cent of the total. There were also imports coastwise of R4·79 lakhs (£32,000) mostly from Persia and Siam. The competition of mercerized cotton goods is already being severely felt in this market. **Silk goods mixed with other materials** had a corresponding fall of R8·2 lakhs (£54,700), contributed by Germany R3·09 lakhs (£20,600) and by France R3·63 lakhs (£24,200). **Silk yarn, noils, and warp** declined by R1·91 lakhs (£12,700) to R36·75 lakhs (£245,000), while **other sorts** rose from R71,392 (£4,760) to R1,27,282 (£8,485). Bombay shares 70 per cent of this trade, Burma 22·4 per cent and Bengal 5·6 per cent only.

**Woollen goods.**—There was a considerable set-back in the imports of **woollen manufactures** into India in 1909-10, due to trade depression and the legacy of large stocks which heavy speculative purchases of the previous two years had bequeathed. The total value declined by 28·5 per cent from R291·09 lakhs (£1,940,600) to R208·11 lakhs (£1,387,400). Of the decrease of R82·98 lakhs (£553,200), **piecegoods** accounted for R47·38 lakhs (£315,900), **shawls** for R32·41 lakhs (£216,100), and **carpets and rugs** and **yarn and knitting wool** for R2·02 lakhs (£13,500) and R2·82 lakhs (£18,800) respectively. **Piecegoods,** which stood at nearly 20 million yards in the previous two years, receded to 15·85 million yards. The decline was one of 19·9 per cent in quantity and 25·3 per cent in value, representing a fall of 6·8 per cent in the average value per yard. The imports from the United Kingdom declined by R22·03 lakhs (£146,800) or 17·2 per cent to R105·76 lakhs (£705,000) and from Germany by R17·26 lakhs (£115,100) or 42 per cent to R23·82 lakhs (£158,800), bringing the shares of the two countries respectively to 75·7 and 17 per cent of the trade. The extraordinary expansion under the head of **shawls** noticed in the last two reviews was reduced by 58·1 per cent in quantity and by 61·3 per cent in value to 849,555 pieces and R20·47 lakhs (£136,500). The average value per piece declined from R2-9-8 (3*s.* 5⅔*d.*) to R2-6-6 (3*s.* 2½*d.*). Germany held this market to the extent of 76·4 per cent of the total number and of 80 per cent of the total values, but Cawnpore and Bangalore are competing with shawls woven from Indian wool decidedly superior in quality to the general level of foreign imports, and Mr. Chatterton has also successfully woven shawls from imported wool on the Salem fly shuttle hand-loom. The trade in **woollen hosiery** improved by R39,431 (£2,629) and the United Kingdom did 87·7 per cent in this line of business. In **yarn and knittingwool** the trade has declined by 130,555 lbs and R2·82 lakhs (£18,800), though Germany maintained her preponderance in this market.

**Other manufactured goods.**—Of these the following are the most important:

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | Increase (+) or decrease (−) per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | |
| Apparel including boots and shoes | 2,41,72,582 | = 1,611,505 | 2,38,14,218 | = 1,587,615 | −1·5 |
| Arms and ammunition | 32,47,531 | 216,502 | 29,23,307 | 194,887 | −10·0 |
| Books and printed matter | 40,37,892 | 269,193 | 37,84,020 | 252,268 | −6·3 |
| Building materials | 61,58,075 | 410,538 | 57,19,710 | 381,314 | −7·1 |
| Carriages and carts | 92,77,657 | 618,510 | 91,52,549 | 610,170 | −1·4 |
| Clocks and watches | 18,45,090 | 123,006 | 18,54,783 | 123,652 | + ·5 |
| Earthenware and porcelain | 42,37,849 | 282,523 | 43,57,390 | 290,493 | +2·8 |
| Glass and glassware | 1,16,93,291 | 779,553 | 1,28,52,909 | 856,861 | +9·9 |

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | Increase (+) or Decrease (—) per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| Instruments and apparatus | 1,23,81,069 | = 825,404 | 1,08,42,309 | = 722,821 | −12·4 |
| *Electrical* | *45,81,773* | *305,452* | *43,47,180* | *289,812* | *−5·1* |
| *Musical* | *29,77,641* | *198,509* | *23,17,426* | *154,495* | *−22·2* |
| *Scientific* | *31,32,757* | *208,850* | *27,00,292* | *180,020* | *−13·8* |
| Jewellery and gold and silver plate | 18,25,144 | 121,676 | 21,59,005 | 143,934 | +18·3 |
| Leather and manufactures of leather | 36,32,618 | 242,175 | 33,21,511 | 221,434 | −8·6 |
| Matches | 74,50,068 | 496,671 | 81,55,266 | 543,684 | +9·5 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 59,65,392 | 397,693 | 57,29,757 | 381,984 | −3·9 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 92,63,396 | 617,560 | 1,01,30,249 | 675,350 | +9·4 |
| Ships, parts of | 37,69,003 | 251,200 | 39,41,468 | 262,765 | +4·6 |
| Soap | 40,75,962 | 271,731 | 46,37,331 | 309,155 | +13·8 |
| Stationery | 43,79,034 | 291,936 | 48,27,087 | 321,806 | +10·2 |
| Tea chests | 37,43,828 | 249,589 | 37,85,557 | 252,370 | +1·1 |
| Toys and requisites for games | 31,32,102 | 208,807 | 34,65,637 | 231,042 | +10·61 |
| Umbrellas | 17,87,601 | 119,173 | 11,25,776 | 75,052 | −37 |
| Umbrella fittings | 19,27,822 | 128,521 | 20,32,757 | 135,517 | +5·4 |

Of these the largest item is **Apparel,** which shows a contraction of ₹3·58 lakhs (£23,900) or 1·5 per cent. It is a composite head, consisting of **haberdashery and millinery** worth ₹99·42 lakhs (£662,800) or 42 per cent, **drapery and uniforms** ₹57·08 lakhs (£380,500) or 24 per cent, **boots and shoes** ₹37·31 lakhs (£249,000) or 15·7 per cent, and **gold and silver thread** ₹36·15 lakhs (£241,000) or 15·2 per cent, of the total. The share of the United Kingdom is 54 per cent, France, Austria-Hungary, and Germany supplying to the extent of 15, 9·5, and 7 per cent, respectively. **Jewellery and gold and silver plate** increased by ₹3·34 lakhs (£22,270) or 18·3 per cent. **Leather and manufactures of leather** showed a decline of ₹3·11 lakhs (£20,700) or 8·6 per cent, while **tanned hides and skins** showed a marked advance. The imports of **umbrella fittings** increased by 5·4 per cent, while **umbrellas** declined by 37 per cent having to contend now with indigenous manufactures.

The next important class is **glass and glassware,** the import of which advanced by ₹11·6 lakhs (£77,000) or 9·9 per cent, which is more than accounted for by larger imports of **glass bangles,** the value of which exceeded the total of the previous year by ₹14·37 lakhs (£96,000. **Glass beads and false pearls** declined, however, by ₹6·36 lakhs (£42,000). Austria-Hungary did 36·7 per cent, of the business, Germany 19 per cent and United Kingdom and Belgium about 14 to 15 per cent each. Glass-making in India is still in the experimental stage, but the Madras Glass Works, Ltd., which has been given a fuel subsidy by the Local Government, has started the manufacture of soda water bottles and glass tiles. Umballa, Gwalior, Jubbulpur, and Benares are other centres where glass-making has begun or is about to begin on a large scale.

**Toys and requisites for games** showed an advance of ₹3·33 lakhs (£22,200) or 10·6 per cent, though the several firms in the Punjab specializing in these lines are doing a large business.

**Instruments and apparatus** hold the third place in the list with ₹108·42 lakhs (£722,821), showing a decline of 12·4 per cent. **Electrical instruments** represent 40 per cent of the total and the United Kingdom supplies 90 per cent of this class. The decline under **musical instruments**

was one of R6·6 lakhs (£44,000) or 22·2 per cent and under **scientific instruments** of R4·32 lakhs (£28,800) or 13·5 per cent. **Typewriters** also showed a decrease of R2·16 lakhs (£14,400), while **photographic instruments** and **clocks and watches** remained practically at the level of the previous year with R8·2 lakhs (£54,800) and R18·54 lakhs (£123,600) respectively.

Imports of **paper and pasteboards** increased by R8·67 lakhs (£57·800) or 9·4 per] cent to R101·30 lakhs (£675,300), of which **printing paper** and **writing paper and envelopes** represent respectively 32·8 and 25·2 per cent. The paper-making industry of India continues to stagnate, there being only nine mills at work with a nominal capital of R51·5 lakhs (£343,300), which in 1909 produced 56·92 million lbs of course papers, valued at R79·12 lakhs (£527,500). If, however, the Mitsu Bishi Co. proves successful in the manufacture of paper of all grades from bamboo pulp, the supply of raw material, in regard to which Indian mills are at present at a great disadvantage, should be solved in perpetuity. **Stationery** increased by R4·48 lakhs (£29,900) or 10·2 per cent. **Books** and **printed matter** (chiefly educational), including maps and charts, also declined by 6·3 per cent. **Printing and lithographic materials** were imported to the extent of R8·93 lakhs (£59,500), showing a decline of 17 per cent.

**Building materials** declined by 7·1 per cent to R57·20 lakhs (£381,300), of which **cement** was valued at R38·34 lakhs (£255,600). The manufacture of cement in India has proved profitable, and is likely to develop. **Paints and colours** were also valued at R57·29 lakhs (£382,000), showing a decline of 3·9 per cent. Imports of **Cabinetware and furniture** were valued at R17·55 lakhs (£117,000), besides **wood** worth R8·64 lakhs (£57,600). **Earthenware and porcelain** advanced by R1·20 lakhs (£8,000) or 2·8 per cent to R43·57 lakhs (£290,500), to which **Chinese and Japanese ware** worth R1·73 lakhs (£11,500) may be added.

**Carriages and carts** showed a small decline of R1·25 lakhs (£83,300) or 1·4 per cent. The values of **motor cars and motor cycles,** which are included in this head and have been separately enumerated from April 1905 were R47·57 lakhs (£317,100), being 52·2 per cent of the total, as against R43·14 lakhs (£287,600) in 1908-09. The total imports during the past five years amounted to R234·06 lakhs (£1,560,400). The share of the United Kingdom as the country of export was about 86 per cent, but this does not probably represent the correct proportion of British-made to foreign-made cars.

The import trade in **matches** continues to expand in spite of efforts to manufacture them in various parts of India. Sweden contributed 29 per cent and Japan (with Singapore as entrepôt) 41 per cent of the total, the former exceeding the previous year's total by 43·4 per cent and the latter by 67·5 per cent. Austria-Hungary's share is now only 9·7 per cent and her imports declined by 14·7 per cent.

The arrivals of **soap** have increased in value by 13·8 per cent to R46·37 lakhs (£3,09,100). The manufacture of soap in India, however, has made considerable progress and the highly scented *swadeshi* products are creating a greatly extended demand for the article among classes who were hitherto content with soap nut or Fuller's eart

The increase in wooden **tea chest** for shipment of leaf was only 1·1 per cent, though the exports of tea rose by 6·6 per cent. The popularity of patent boxes, however, shows no sign of abatement.

Under the head of **parts of ships** the increase was one of R1·73 lakhs (£11,500) or 4·6 per cent.

**Arms and ammunition** declined by R3·24 lakhs (£21,600) or 10 per cent, of which R2·11 lakhs (£14,000) occurred under **dynamite and other explosives,** there being smaller imports for mining purposes.

**Government stores.**—The imports of Government stores remain to be separately considered, though with a few exceptions they constitute actual commercial transactions. They amounted to R5·59 crores (£3·73 millions) as against R7·51 crores (£5 millions) in 1908-09.

The bulk of the imports is **material for State Railways** valued at R2·95 crores (£1·97 millions), being 53 per cent of the total in place of 60 per cent in 1908-09. The imports of **other descriptions of stores** fell from R2·99 crores (£1·99 millions) to R2·64 crores (£1·76 millions), the decline being one of R35·22 lakhs (£234,800) or 12 per cent. The chief items are **Metals** (R50·65 lakhs=£337,700), **Hardware and cutlery** (R35·02 lakhs=£233,500), **Machinery and millwork** (R27·73 lakhs=£184,900), **Instruments, etc.** (R16·60 lakhs=£110,700), **Arms, etc.** (R11·13 lakhs=£74,200), **Chemicals, drugs** (R10·79 lakhs=£72,000), and **paper** (R10·23 lakhs=£68,200).

The share of the United Kingdom was R5·33 crores (£3·55 millions), being less by R1·75 crores (£1,165,000) or 25 per cent than in 1908-09. This is 95·3 per cent of the total.

## EXPORTS OF IMPORTED GOODS

The following statement shows the value of the **exports by sea of imported goods** in each of the last five years with averages for the preceding three quinquennial periods:

| | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|
| Average, 1890-91 to 1894-95 . . . | 4,55,97,100= | 2,926,200 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . . | 3,83,32,000 | 2,392,400 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 . . | 3,22,06,500 | 2,147,100 |
| In the year 1905-06 . . . . | 3,52,88,100 | 2,352,500 |
| 1906-07 . . . . | 3,48,40,400 | 2,322,700 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 3,76,73,400 | 2,511,600 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 3,17,07,300 | 2,113,800 |
| 1909-10 . . . . | 3,38,86,400 | 2,259,100 |
| Average, 1905-06 to 1909-10 . . . | 3,46,79,100 | 2,311,900 |

On an average the value of the re-exports represents about 2 per cent of the total exports of merchandise and 3 per cent of the imports from which they were derived. In 1894-95 the value of re-exports amounted to R5·05 crores (£2·76 millions), but there has been some recovery since 1902-03 when the total was only R2·93 crores (£1·95 millions).

Bombay and Karachi continue to monopolise about 90 per cent of this trade. The share of Bombay itself amounted to R2·63 crores (£1·75 millions) or about 78 per cent against R2·30 crores (£1·53 millions) or 73 per cent in 1908-09.

The trade consists chiefly in **Cotton manufactures,** the value of which was R1·21 crores (£807,000), showing an increase of R8·56 lakhs (£57,000) or 7·6 per cent. This represents nearly 36 per cent of the total re-exports as in 1908-09, against 39·4 per cent in 1907-08 and 37·7 per cent in 1906-07. **Piece goods** rose from R101·53 lakhs (£676,900) to R107·02 lakhs (£713,500), of which **Coloured goods** contributed R85·38 lakhs (£569,000) against R79·66

lakhs (£531,000) in 1908-09. **White goods** maintained their position but **Grey goods** declined by R41,300 (£2,750) to R7·99 lakhs (£53,300) For these goods India is an entrepôt for Persia (R24·50 lakhs=£163,000), East Africa (R19·36 lakhs=£129,000), Arabia (R15·21 lakhs=£101,400). Bahrein Islands (R11·98 lakhs=£79,800), Aden (R9·51 lakhs=£63,400), Asiatic Turkey (R7·56 lakhs=£50,400), and Ceylon (R6·90 lakhs=£46,000). **Yarns,** which had fallen to R5·66 lakhs (£37,600) in 1908-09, very nearly approached the figure for 1907-08, namely, about R9 lakhs (£60,000), Persia alone taking R7·03 lakhs (£47,000) against R4·13 lakhs (£27,500) in 1908-09.

The re-exports to Western countries are comparatively small. The United Kingdom takes about 22 per cent of the total, and the chief commodity is **raw wool,** which coming from Afghanistan and Tibet is re-exported from Karachi. This trade advanced quantitatively from 4,994,593 to 5,154,040 lbs.

Other items but of minor importance are **Provisions** which declined from R18·33 lakhs (£122,000) to R16·96 lakhs (£113,000), **Sugar** which made a large recovery from R11·73 lakhs (£78,200) to R16·56 lakhs (£110,400), and **Apparel** which rose by R67,700 (£4,500) to R15·71 lakhs (£104,700) **Metals** (R14·68 lakhs=£98,000), **Hardware and cutlery** (R10·93 lakhs=£73,000), and **Jewellwery and plate** (R8·36 lakhs=£55,700) nearly maintained the level of the previous year. **Carriages and carts** declined by nearly R2 lakhs (£13,300) to R1·61 lakhs (£30,700). **Ivory** showed an increase of over a lakh and a third (£9,000) and **Shells and cowries** one lakh (£6,600) and **Silk** R89,000 (£6,000).

**Foreign tea,** chiefly re-exported to Asiatic Turkey and Persia, dropped from 833,996 lbs and R5·40 lakhs (£36,000) to 487,378 lbs and R3·61 lakhs (£24,000), the decline being one of 41·5 per cent in quantity and 33·1 per cent in value.

## EXPORTS OF INDIAN MERCHANDISE

The **Exports of Indian Merchandise** in 1909-10 represented nearly 95 per cent of the total exports and 60·5 per cent of the total trade in merchandise, the percentages of the previous year being 94·3 and 54·6 respectively. Their total value was R184·34 crores (£122·89 millions) as compared with R149·86 crores (£99·9 millions) in 1908-09. The increase was therefore one of R34·48 crores (£23 millions) or 23 per cent over the exports of 1908-09 and of R10·75 crores (£7·16 millions) or 6·2 per cent over the record year of 1907-08.

The appended statement shows the progress made in the past thirty years, *the unit being 1000*, as in the case of imports. It shows also the percentages of increase or decrease and the centesimal variations based on the first quinquenial period of 1880-81 to 1884-85.

| | R | £ | Percentage, Increase (+) or Decrease (—) | Centesimal variations |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1880-81 to 1884-85 . | 79,44,53 = | 64,987 | — | 100 |
| „ 1885-86 to 1889-90 . | 88,75,15 | 63,275 | +11·7 | 112 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 . | 1,01,43,44 | 65,467 | +14·3 | 128 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . | 1,03,64,93 | 65,243 | +2·2 | 130 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 . | 1,31,00,38 | 87,396 | +26·4 | 165 |
| In the year 1905-06 . . . | 1,58,18,92 | 105,459 | +20·7 | 199 |
| „ 1906-07 . . . | 1,73,08,20 | 115,388 | +9·4 | 218 |
| „ 1907-08 . . . | 1,73,59,07 | 115,727 | +0·3 | 218 |
| „ 1908-09 . . . | 1,49,85,73 | 99,905 | —13·7 | 189 |
| „ 1909-10 . . . | 1,84,33,73 | 122,892 | +23 | 232 |
| Average, 1905-06 to 1909-10 . | 1,67,81,13 | 111,874 | +28·1 | 211 |

The average of the last five years corresponds approximately to the advance under imports.

The **principal articles in the export trade** are stated below with their values *in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling.* Percentages of increase or decrease in 1909-10 as compared with the previous year are noted against each.

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | Percentages | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | Increase | Decrease |
| 1. Cotton, raw | 25,70,25= | 17,135 | 19,76,85= | 13,179 | 31,27,71= | 20,851 | 58·2 | — |
| 2. Seeds | 16,81,52 | 11,210 | 11,67,81 | 7,785 | 18,72,62 | 12,484 | 60·3 | — |
| 3. Rice | 20,33,91 | 13,559 | 15,89,02 | 10,593 | 18,24,45 | 12,163 | 14 8 | — |
| 4. Jute manufactures | 18,29,76 | 12,198 | 15,73,60 | 10,491 | 17,09,65 | 11,398 | 8·7 | — |
| 5. Jute | 17,97,28 | 11,932 | 19,83,45 | 13,223 | 15,08,83 | 10,059 | — | 23·9 |
| 6. Hides and skins | 10,95,15 | 7,301 | 12,46,72 | 8,312 | 13,61,98 | 9,080 | 9·2 | — |
| 7. Wheat and wheat flour | 9,14,56 | 6,097 | 1,86,12 | 1,241 | 13,30,29 | 8,869 | 614·7 | — |
| 8. Cotton yarn and cloth | 10,76,66 | 7,178 | 11,53,72 | 7,691 | 11,91,56 | 7,944 | 3·3 | — |
| 9. Tea | 10,30,03 | 6,867 | 10,39,37 | 6,929 | 11,70,74 | 7,805 | 12·6 | — |
| 10. Opium | 8,67,25 | 5,782 | 9,34,92 | 6,233 | 9,31,36 | 6,209 | — | 0·4 |
| 11. Wool, raw | 2,10,38 | 1,403 | 2,08,37 | 1,389 | 2,85,77 | 1,905 | 37·2 | — |
| 12. Lac | 4,08,31 | 2,772 | 2,79,47 | 1,863 | 2,77,17 | 1,848 | — | 0·8 |
| 13. Pulse, millets, and cereals | 2,02,41 | 1,349 | 81,72 | 545 | 2,02,96 | 1,353 | 148·3 | — |
| 14. Oils | 85,82 | 572 | 94,44 | 630 | 1,20,86 | 806 | 28·1 | — |
| 15. Coffee | 1,11,45 | 743 | 1,39,00 | 927 | 1,09,64 | 731 | — | 21·1 |
| 16. Provisions | 75,46 | 503 | 76,11 | 507 | 88,68 | 591 | 16·5 | — |
| 17. Spices | 52,70 | 351 | 58,53 | 390 | 70,85 | 472 | 21 | — |
| 18. Wood and timber | 82,69 | 551 | 57,62 | 384 | 69,83 | 465 | 21·2 | — |
| 19. Silk, raw | 63,78 | 423 | 54,05 | 360 | 50,76 | 338 | — | 6·1 |
| 20. Indigo | 63,73 | 425 | 49,05 | 327 | 35,18 | 235 | — | 28·3 |

The most interesting features of the above list, which shows advances in most cases, are the high percentage of increases under wheat and wheat flour, pulses and millets, seeds, cotton raw, and wool raw, while the only noticeable decreases are under jute raw, indigo, and coffee.

The following statement shows the values (*000's omitted*) of the trade in each of the seven major classes, under which articles are grouped in the accounts in each of the last three years:

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| I. Animals living | 21,59 = | 144 | 15,86 = | 106 | 19,49 = | 130 |
| II. Articles of food and drink | 44,73,17 | 29,821 | 32,54,09 | 21,694 | 49,03,76 | 32,692 |
| III. Metals and manufactures | 1,21,89 | 812 | 90,09 | 601 | 1,10,71 | 738 |
| IV. Chemicals drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials | 11,03,78 | 7,359 | 11,47,29 | 7,649 | 11,26,02 | 7,507 |
| V. Oils | 85,82 | 572 | 94,44 | 630 | 1,20,86 | 806 |
| VI. Raw materials and unmanufactured articles | 76,23,00 | 50,820 | 67,18,55 | 44,790 | 83,46,84 | 55,646 |
| VII. Articles manufactured and partly manufactured | 39,29,81 | 26,199 | 36,65,41 | 24,436 | 38,06,03 | 25,374 |

Classes II (articles of food and drink) and VI (raw materials and unmanufactured articles) show abnormal increases of 50·7 and 24·2 per cent respectively.

## I.—ANIMALS, LIVING

This is a small and insignificant class, the total value being R19·49 lakhs (£130,000) as against R15·86 lakhs (£105,700) in 1908-09. Exports are chiefly made up of shipments of cattle from Southern India to Ceylon and the Straits, but a feature of the year's trade was that 1,309 bulls and cows valued at R2·28 lakhs (£15,000), including some fine specimens of well-known Indian breeds, were exported from Bombay to Brazil.

## II.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

This class shows a net increase of R16·5 crores (£11 millions), of which the head **grain and pulse** accounted for R15·01 crores (£10 millions), but the abnormal conditions prevailing in 1908-09 vitiate comparisons with the figures of that year. Compared with the totals of 1907-08, the increase under this head was only R2·07 crores (£1·38 millions), made up of about R4·12 crores (£2·75 millions) under **wheat** with a set off of R2·09 crores (£1·4 millions) under **rice. Cocoanut kernel** or *copra* marks an advance of R21·49 lakhs (£143,000) and **Provisions** and **Spices** about R12 lakhs (£80,000) each. **Tea** improved by R1·31 crores (£873,000) or 12·7 per cent. The only noticeable decline was under **coffee** from R1·39 crores (£927,000) to R1·1 crore (£733,000), a fall of R29·36 lakhs (£195,700) or 21·1 per cent.

**Coffee.**—The exports of **coffee** are dwindling steadily, and in the year under review represent only 2·2 per cent of the total exports of articles of food and drink. The bogey of the Sao Paolo "valorization" scheme with nearly six million bags of coffee still to be liquidated continues to paralyse the market in futures, but a temporary improvement in spot prices took place when the apprehensions of a coffee duty attracted large imports into the United States of America. The visible supply of coffee at the close of the statistical year was a little higher than twelve months earlier, but if the new Brazilian crop proves to be one of only 11½ million bags, the statistical position of the industry should materially improve. The figures of Indian exports, quantities and values, for the last five years are as follows :—

| | Cwts | *R* | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . . | 360,182 | 1,75,67,240 | = 1,171,149 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 228,094 | 99,64,778 | 664,319 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 244,234 | 1,11,45,202 | 743,013 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 302,022 | 1,38,99,792 | 926,653 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 232,645 | 1,09,64,037 | 730,936 |

The decrease in 1909-10 is one of 23 per cent in quantity and 21·1 per cent in value. This is the third successive year in which the specific value has risen, but there is some doubt as to how far the declared values of duty-free exports can be relied upon as there are general complaints of inferior quality on the part of home buyers. Though the statistical year closes before the coffee season in Southern India is quite complete, the results so far as known are except for a few special Mysore marks, no more hopeful than they were a year ago. The shipments of coffee to the United Kingdom rose from 44 per cent to 47·3 per cent, though she acts almost entirely as a distributing agent for America. The direct shipments to France, which is a consumer chiefly of lower

grades and "native" (*i.e.*, cherry dried) coffee, fell from 43 to 33 per cent. In Germany the duty has been raised again from 40 to 60 marks per 100 kilos and consumption is said to have fallen by 20 per cent.

**Fruits and vegetables.**—The value of the exports advanced by R24·12 lakhs (£160,800) or 34·7 per cent to R93·7 lakhs (£624,700). The chief item of this class has recently been **Copra** (the dried kernel of the cocoanut), which from the economic point of view should more properly be grouped with oilseeds. The trade in copra, which is expanding steadily, is directed chiefly from the ports on the west coast of the Madras Presidency to the Continent. The exports amounted to 534,014 cwts valued at R74·48 lakhs (£496,500) as compared with 395,126 cwts and R52·99 lakhs (£353,000) in 1908-09, the increase being one of 138,888 cwts and R21·49 lakhs (£43,300) or 35·2 per cent in quantity and 40·5 per cent in value, which represents a rise of 4 per cent in specific value. The table below shows in detail the exports of the several products of the cocoanut palm to foreign countries during the past two years:

| | | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | R | £ | | R | £ |
| Cocoanuts | No. | 595,725 | 27,042= | 1,803 | 297,108 | 15,666= | 1,044 |
| Coir fibre | Cwts | 9,822 | 1,02,445 | 6,829 | 13,162 | 1,41,867 | 9,458 |
| Coir manufactures | „ | 575,062 | 62,75,207 | 418,347 | 677,309 | 72,86,036 | 485,736 |
| Cordage and rope | „ | 37,024 | 5,87,843 | 39,190 | 49,158 | 7,45,835 | 49,742 |
| Copra | „ | 395,126 | 52,99,294 | 353,286 | 534,014 | 74,48,001 | 496,533 |
| Cocoanut oil | Gals | 2,845,404 | 40,31,689 | 268,779 | 2,526,328 | 37,63,166 | 250,878 |
| „ poonac (from Madras ports) | Cwts | 151,517 | 5,69,269 | 37,951 | 110,116 | 4,08,845 | 27,256 |
| | Total | | 1,68,92,789 | 1,126,186 | | 1,98,09,416 | 1,320,627 |

The bulk of the trade goes to France, Germany, and the United States of America.

The value of cocoanut oil in connection with soap-making has long been recognized, but it is likely to be exploited very largely in the future in the production of *ghi* substitutes and edible fats. The only factory for these purposes in India at present is situated at Pondicherry.

**Fresh vegetables,** chiefly **potatoes** and **onion** are also an important item, and account for a further increase of R2·72 lakhs (£18,100) in this class. The bulk of them are exported to Ceylon and the Straits.

**Rice.**—Exports of rice in 1909-10 represented 54·3 per cent of the total value of food grains exported from India, against 85·6 per cent in the previous year, and 9·9 per cent of the value of all Indian produce exported as compared with 10·6 per cent in 1908-09.

The chief features of the Indian rice trade during the year under review were a phenomenal crop in Burma and the two Bengals, some shortage in Southern India, which attracted coastwise consignments, chiefly of unhusked rice (paddy), to the Madras Presidency, a further advance in foreign exports, and a slightly lower range of prices.

The total rice crop with which this review is chiefly concerned was estimated at 27,924,450 tons as compared with 19,548,995 tons in the previous year. Lower prices for jute encouraged increased acreage under rice in the two Bengals. The exports, foreign and coastwise, from Burma before the close of the official year are calculated to represent 45 per cent of the available surplus as against 38 per cent twelve months earlier.

The following statement shows in *thousands* the quantity and value of the exports abroad during the past five years:—

| | Total exports from all India | | | Burma's share of total | Coastwise exports from Burma | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | R | £ | per cent | Tons | R | £ |
| 1905-06 . . | 2,152 | 18,63,69=12,425 | | 73·3 | 160 | 3,47,40=2,316 | |
| 1906-07 . . | 1,935 | 18,52,51 | 12,350 | 73·4 | 813 | 7,22,84 | 4,819 |
| 1907-08 . . | 1,913 | 20,33,63 | 13,558 | 76·4 | 979 | 9,62,10 | 6,414 |
| 1908-09 . . | 1,512 | 15,88,75 | 10,592 | 72·4 | 1,157 | 12,04,91 | 8,033 |
| 1909-10 . . | 1,960 | 18,24,20 | 12,161 | 75·2 | 1,038 | 10,12,41 | 6,749 |

After three years' continuous contraction the exports to foreign countries rose by nearly 30 per cent or 448,000 tons, but the fall in specific value is one of 11·4 per cent. The average price in Calcutta for Balam rice No. 1 fell from R8-4-3 (11*s.* 0¼*d.*) to R6-3-4 (8*s.* 3⅓*d.*) and for Ngatsain rice in Rangoon from R4-14-8 (6*s.* 6⅔*d.*) to R4-2-3 (5*s.* 6¼*d.*) per cwt, the percentage decreases being 24·9 and 15·8, respectively, on the records of the previous year. The new Burma crop came into sight commercially in December, and the price in March shows a slight advance R1 (5*s.* 4*d.*) against R3-15-3 (5*s.* 3¼*d.*) twelve months earlier. Burma's quantitative share of the exports to foreign countries rose from 72·4 to 75·2 per cent of the total exports from British India.

Ceylon continues the largest single purchaser of Indian rice. In the year under review the shipments amounted to 304,965 tons, valued at R3·54 crores (£2·36 millions), as compared with 255,181 tons in 1908-09. The Ceylon Customs returns for the calendar year 1909 show that the imports of rice from India proper amounted to 204,776 tons, against 23,181 tons from Burma, but the former figures include considerable consignments from Rangoon which have been parboiled in Calcutta and re-shipped to Colombo. The exports of **unhusked rice** amounted to 40,446 tons as compared with 28,700 tons in 1908-09.

In view of rumours that Japan intends to grant Korea a preferential tariff, the steady decrease in the last five years in the former's purchases of Indian rice, and considerable expansion in exports from the latter, have attracted attention. But there have been special reasons why Burma during the three years 1906-07 to 1908-09 focussed her activities upon the coasting at the expense of the foreign trade, and the table below shows that Japan is making heroic efforts to become self-supporting in the matter of her rice supply.

Rice trade of Japan (*in piculs of 133⅓ lbs each*)

| | Imports. | | | Production | Exports including re-exports | Estimated consumption |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | From India | From Korea | Total | | | |
| 1904 . | 7,999,870 | 327,786 | 14,731,785 | 114,689,393 | 797,654 | 128,623,524 |
| 1905 . | 7,389,387 | 259,161 | 11,595,913 | 85,124,809 | 537,547 | 96,183,175 |
| 1906 . | 3,243,689 | 313,957 | 6,101,086 | 103,254,642 | 566,987 | 108,688,741 |
| 1907 . | 2,773,420 | 1,530,664 | 6,770,264 | 109,386,105 | 505,631 | 115,650,738 |
| 1908 . | 1,416,316 | 1,116,259 | 4,853,542 | 115,810,113 | 542,560 | 120,121,095 |

The Far Eastern market is still of small dimensions, but it is satisfactory to record that a lower range of prices enabled Burma rice to assume a greater prominence in Java and the Straits Settlements. The rice crop in Indo-China was smaller than usual, and the scarcity in Southern China drew off a large part of it.

The exports of Indian rice to the Straits amounted to 202,656 tons as compared with 152,253 tons in 1908-09. The practice of shipping rice to Port Said "for orders" and then forwarding it to destination not at first disclosed, continues, and vitiates to a considerable extent the accuracy of the statistics relating to exports to Western countries. Revised figures for 1908-09 shew that Egypt should be credited with 91,717 tons only of 264,190 tons for which she figured originally in the accounts, the balance being distributed among some countries in Europe and the Levant. There is a considerable trade in Ballam and parboiled rice done chiefly through the agency of Bombay saits and Arab traders with Zanzibar, Muscat, and other ports in the Persian Gulf, Arabia and Aden. The export figures for the last two years have been *in tons*:

| | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|
| Zanzibar | 23,600 | 16,678 |
| Muscat | 20,304 | 21,605 |
| Arabia | 5,418 | 322 |
| Aden | 12,838 | 17,547 |
| Persian Gulf | 19,437 | 32,581 |
| Persia | 7,560 | 7,416 |

The direct exports of rice to Germany amounted to 333,480 tons valued at R279·01 lakhs (£1,860,000) as compared with 224,480 tons valued at R218·21 lakhs (£1,455,000) in 1908-09, and she retains her place as the chief occidental consumer. The United Kingdom also showed an increase from 127,715 tons and R119·66 lakhs (£798,000) to 143,112 tons and R127·24 lakhs (£848,300), and shipments to Austria-Hungary rose from 124,088 tons and R110·92 lakhs (£739,500) to 185,437 tons and R148·61 lakhs (£990,700).

**Wheat.**—The interest of the statistics relating to wheat suffers to some extent from the fact that they deal with ancient history in as much as it is not the crop which has just been harvested but the penultimate one which affects the returns.

Wheat is harvested in India in April and May. In 1907-08 the season for sowing was unfavourable, and the rainfall insufficient for a good harvest. In the result the total area under wheat contracted from 29 to 22 million acres, and the estimated outturn from 8½ to 6 million tons. Famine conditions prevailed over a considerable part of Northern India, and the exportable surplus was reduced to 110,000 tons as compared with 880,000 tons in the previous year, and 1,213,000 tons, the average of the previous five years.

In 1908-09 the season was not altogether propitious, as the Punjab crop suffered considerably from excessive rain both at sowing time and in the third week of April when on the threshing floor. The total area sown was, however, some 3 million acres in excess of that for 1907-08 and the outturn was estimated at 7½ million tons.

The following table shows the outturn and the total exports (quantities and values) for the past five years:

| | Harvest year | 1905 | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Outturn | Tons | 7,582,040 | 8,570,140 | 8,491,700 | 6,106,700 | 7,597,500 |
| | | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
| Exports— Quantity | „ | 937,523 | 801,146 | 880,459 | 109,757 | 1,050,574 |
| Value | R | 8,53,43,996 | 7,25,44,650 | 8,58,50,350 | 1,34,00,777 | 12,70,90,884 |
| | £ | 5,689,599 | 4,836,310 | 5,723,357 | 893,385 | 8,472,726 |
| Percentage of exports to outturn | | 12·4 | 9·3 | 10·4 | 1·8 | 13·8 |

These figures are of considerable statistical interest. Eliminating the altogether abnormal year 1908-09, it will be observed that the variation in total outturn (based upon forecasts which have been accepted as reasonably

accurate by the trade) and proportionate exports is not nearly so great as ha sometimes been assumed.

The Indian crop comes on the market in the interval between the Antipodean harvests of South America and Australia and those of northern latitudes, when advantageous prices are procurable,as the first shipments reach the United Kingdom, when home stocks are practically exhausted. The cultivators in the Panjab are generally anxious to realise in order that they may pay off advances and Government dues and to avoid the risk of loss by weevils from storage in the monsoon, and the demands of exporters are therefore generally satisfied at the beginning of the season. The rush of wheat to the ports and to Karachi in particular is, as the following table shows, confined, in a normal year, to May, June, July, and August and the shipments from December onwards are small in volume.

| | 1905-06 Tons | 1906-07 Tons | 1907-08 Tons | 1909-10 Tons | Average Tons | Percentage of total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| April . . | 72,597 | 23,206 | 70,286 | 20,063 | 46,538 | 5·1 |
| May . . | 153,467 | 62,383 | 71,389 | 93,806 | 95,259 | 10·4 |
| June . . | 219,935 | 140,918 | 99,614 | 232,691 | 173,289 | 18·9 |
| July . . | 153,462 | 163,319 | 155,859 | 277,404 | 187,511 | 20·4 |
| August . . | 104,246 | 89,284 | 145,064 | 174,104 | 128,175 | 14 |
| September . . | 42,043 | 34,138 | 140,440 | 22,026 | 59,662 | 6·5 |
| October . . | 44,829 | 70,785 | 123,027 | 37,280 | 68,980 | 7·5 |
| November . . | 67,499 | 49,760 | 52,653 | 35,968 | 51,470 | 5·6 |
| December . . | 49,111 | 40,934 | 16,701 | 31,940 | 34,671 | 3·8 |
| January . . | 19,785 | 23,948 | 3,022 | 55,721 | 25,619 | 2·8 |
| February . . | 3,254 | 36,297 | 482 | 17,057 | 14,272 | 1·5 |
| March . . | 7,296 | 66,473 | 1,930 | 52,515 | 32,054 | 3·5 |

The crop harvested in April 1908 was so small and wheat prices in India so high that the statistics of exports for the year 1908-09 have been disregarded altogether. India was fortunate in finding a very considerable shortage of wheat in Europe when a new export season began in April 1909 and her shipments in June and July were not only exceptionally heavy, but were made at rates which, thanks to the almost complete absorption of the unusually small harvest of the previous year, must have proved highly remunerative to the growers. In July the world's visible supply had fallen to 7,000,000 quarters, and prices held until well into August when a fine North American and a phenomenal Russian harvest came into sight and gave quotations a set-back which is strikingly reflected in the curtailed exports from India in September. Prices at Karachi sagged and though there was a temporary recovery in January the March rate was some five and a half rupees a candy lower than twelve months earlier.

The following table shews the average monthly prices of Indian wheat in Karachi and British wheat in London during the twelve months. The average declared value calculated on the exports from all ports amounts to R6-0-9 pies (8*s*. $0\frac{3}{4}$*d*.) per cwt, or 35*s*. 5*d*. per qr.

| | *Karachi* per candy = of 656 lbs | | per qr. | | London Gazette average per qr. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | a = | *s* | *d* | *s* | *d* |
| April . . | 36 | 12 | 36 | 9 | 36 | 5 |
| May . . | 38 | 0 | 38 | 0 | 42 | 5 |
| June . . | 35 | 12 | 35 | 9 | 43 | 1 |
| July . . | 37 | 0 | 37 | 0 | 42 | 9 |
| August . . | 36 | 0 | 36 | 0 | 44 | 9 |
| September . | 34 | 8 | 34 | 6 | 38 | 5 |
| October . | 33 | 8 | 33 | 6 | 32 | 2 |
| November . | 33 | 4 | 33 | 3 | 32 | 5 |
| December . | 34 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 33 | 3 |
| January . | 34 | 12 | 34 | 9 | 33 | 3 |
| February . | 34 | 12 | 34 | 9 | 33 | 6 |
| March . . | 32 | 12 | 32 | 9 | 32 | 7 |

The remarkably fine crop recently harvested is expected to yield 9,557,000 tons of wheat from 27,765,500 acres, but the high prices realized last year have enabled cultivators to hold up very large quantities of grain in the Punjab, and the export trade hitherto has been abnormally sluggish, a situation to which of course the superstitious anticipation of a failure of the monsoon has largely contributed.

As regards the distribution of the trade during the year under review, the United Kingdom took 885,496 tons or 84·3 per cent. of the total exports of wheat as against 103,527 tons in 1908-09 and 771,525 tons in 1907-08. Belgium and Germany, which did not take a single ton in the previous year, absorbed 120,724 and 8,287 tons against 70,433 and 685 tons respectively in 1907-08. France also took 17,718 tons against 402 tons in 1908-09 and 15,909 tons in 1907-08. 93,571 tons were shipped to Egypt "for orders" and the exports have been adjusted and credited to the countries of final destination.

Though the exports of **wheat flour** were somewhat restricted in 1908-09 by the shortage of the crop and high internal prices, they, in the year under review, partially made good the decline noticed in last review and amounted to 35,054 tons valued at R59·38 lakhs (£396,000), shewing a rise of 16·4 per cent in quantity and 13·9 per cent in value, but a slight fall of 2·3 per cent in specific value. This trade was, as usual, mainly directed to the Turkish ports on the Persian Gulf (R13·62 lakhs = £90,800), Ceylon (R10·69 lakhs = £71,300), Aden (R9·39 lakhs=£62,600), Mauritius (R8·52 lakhs=£56,800), East Africa and Zanzibar (R5·74 lakhs=£38,300), the Straits (R3·18 lakhs =£21,200), and Persia and Egypt with about R2·17 lakhs (£14,500) each. The shipments were confined to the ports of Bombay (61 per cent), Karachi (28 per cent), and Calcutta (10·5 per cent).

The trade in **Food grains other than rice and wheat,** which was greatly contracted in 1908-09, fully recovered and assumed the dimensions of the previous year. The expansion was one of 164,955 tons or 201·4 per cent, the total quantity being 246,836 tons against 81,881 tons in 1908-09. The value rose by 148·3 per cent from R81·72 lakhs (£545,000) to R202·96 lakhs (£1·35 millions). The most astonishing increase is under **gram** with a total of 53,497 tons and R45·99 lakhs (£306,600) against 7,578 tons and R8·75 lakhs (£58,300), the percentages being 606 in quantity and 425·6 in value, **Jawar** and **Bajra,** which amounted to 22,974 tons with a value of R19·61 lakhs (£130,700) in 1908-09, advanced by 80 per cent to 41,317 tons valued at R31 lakhs (£207,000), while **pulse,** which was the largest item in the group in 1908-09 with a total of 36,777 tons and R41·20 lakhs (£275,000), returned 76,450 tons and R71·42 lakhs (£476,000), showing an increase of nearly 108 per cent in quantity and 73 per cent in value. **Barley** was exported to the extent of 22,444 tons valued at R18·39 lakhs (£122,600), shewing increased percentages of 138·2 in quantity and 125·6 in value over the figures for 1908-09, but in 1907-08, which was an abnormal year, the totals were 81,887 tons and R60·78 lakhs (£405,200). The increase under the head **"other sorts"** was one of 47,998 tons in quantity and 32·15 lakhs (£214,300) in value, of which the United Kingdom alone took over R31 lakhs (£207,000).

**Provisions.**—The value of provisions exported is comparatively small, but in the year under review it rose from R76·11 lakhs (£507,400) to R88·68 lakhs (£591,200) or by R12·57 lakhs (£84,000) equal to 16·5 per cent. *Ghi* or clarified butter is the principal item with a value of R24·83 lakhs (£165,500), which is slightly better than in the previous year, but 7 per cent less than in

1907-08. It is chiefly exported to the Straits Settlements, Ceylon, and Natal for the Indian emigrants in those Colonies. The declared values in 1907-08 worked out R60·6 (£4 0*s*. 9½*d*.) per cwt but fell to R56·4 (£3 15*s*.) in the following year and there was a further fractional decline in 1909-10. Next in importance is **Dry fish, salted and unsalted,** the value of which advanced by R2·54 lakhs (£17,000) or 13·5 per cent to R21·29 lakhs (£142,000), the proportion of salted fish to unsalted being about four to one. **Fruits and vegetables,** dried, salted or preserved, accounted for R14·93 lakhs (£99,500) against R11·47 lakhs (£76,500) in 1908-09, and **Fishmaws and sharkfins** for R13·59 lakhs (£90,600) against R9·36 lakhs (£62,400), the former showing an increase of 30·2 per cent and the latter 45·1 per cent over the value of 1908-09.

**Spices.**—The export trade in **Spices** made a further recovery during the year under review, the total value rising by R12·31 lakhs (£82,000) or 21 per cent to R70·85 lakhs (£472,300), but the totals are still below those for 1905-06. **Pepper** continues the most important item in the group. The exports, almost entirely from ports on the West Coast, rose from R22·5 lakhs (£150,000) in 1908-09 to R29·5 lakhs (£197,000), or 31 per cent, but there was a slight fall in specific value. **Chillies,** in which the Madras Presidency does the bulk of the trade, with a total of R19·42 lakhs (£129,000), recorded an advance of R2·36 lakhs (£15,700) or 13·8 per cent. in spite of diminished volume. **Ginger,** chiefly exported from Madras and Bombay, shewed an improvement of R1·61 lakhs (£10,700), the total of R16·12 lakhs (£107,500) representing an advance of 11·1 per cent upon last year's figures. **Cardamoms** advanced in value by R1·53 lakhs (£10,200) to R4·58 lakhs (£30,500).

**Tea.**—The Indian tea trade continues its career of prosperity. As regards the **crop** the outturn was, owing to drought in some of the tea-growing districts, somewhat in defect until September, but in the last three months of the season the weather was remarkably favourable for growth, particularly in Assam, and the crop exceeded all records, though there was some shortage from the Terai. **Prices** were maintained at an unusually steady level, the common grades of tea fetching during the year 1 anna 6 pies (1½*d*.) above the closing rates of the previous year, and the average price of tea sold at Calcutta auctions marks an advance of 13 per cent over last year's figures. The following table shows the quantities *in thousands of lbs* of tea exported to the principal countries during the past three years:

| Countries of final destination | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | Percentage | lbs | Percentage | lbs | Percentage |
| United Kingdom . . | 169,315 | 74·6 | 177,369 | 75·8 | 189,234 | 75·9 |
| Russia . . . . | 19,183 | 8·4 | 19,351 | 8·3 | 24,011 | 9·6 |
| Canada . . . . | 4,981 | 2·2 | 8,158 | 3·5 | 8,946 | 3·5 |
| Australia . . . . | 10,402 | 4·6 | 8,195 | 3 5 | 8,161 | 3·3 |
| China . . . . | 7,278 | 3·2 | 5,789 | 2·5 | 6,208 | 2·5 |
| Ceylon . . . . | 5,241 | 2·3 | 3,909 | 1·7 | 3,809 | 1·5 |
| Turkey in Asia . . . | 3,514 | 1·5 | 3,316 | 1·4 | 2,618 | 1·1 |
| United States . . . | 2,128 | ·9 | 2,102 | ·9 | 2,459 | ·1 |
| Germany . . . . | 659 | ·3 | 1,084 | ·5 | 699 | ·3 |
| Egypt . . . . | 452 | ·2 | 1,190 | ·5 | 634 | ·3 |
| Persia . . . . | 1,464 | ·6 | 906 | ·4 | 387 | ·2 |
| Other Countries . . | 2,405 | 1·1 | 2,593 | 1·1 | 2,247 | ·9 |

The trade with **Russia** is of growing interest and importance. The demand includes all grades, and the bulk of the shipments go *vid* Colombo and Vladivostok and thence by Trans-Siberian Railway. According to the new system of seaborne trade accounts in which the country of final destination is

recorded for all exports, the total quantity shipped to Russia amounted to 24,011,260 lbs, of which 11,727,456 lbs would under the old system have been credited to Ceylon and 1,923,099 lbs to Germany (Hamburg). These figures do not include brick tea for the Hankow market, (the exports of which, credited to China in the table above, exceeded 6 million lbs) much of which finds its way eventually into Russia.

The exports to **Australia** during the last two years have decreased, but those for **Canada** and the **United States** show a satisfactory increase in spite of the disorganisation of trade caused by rumours of a proposed import tax on tea entering the United States. The offtake to Continental ports was smaller, also to Bombay and Persian Gulf ports, probably owing to the political disturbance in Persia, and higher prices may have to account for shorter shipments to Turkey, Africa, etc. The duty in Germany, which had been reduced in 1906 to $1\frac{1}{2}d$ per lb, was raised again with effect from the 1st August 1909 to $5\frac{1}{2}d$ per lb, and this is bound to cause a set-back in the consumption of Indian tea in that country, though it has only affected slightly the figures for the year under review.

The following figures illustrating the **transactions on the Calcutta market** during the past three years shew that although there was some increase in the volume of direct shipments to foreign ports, the percentage of exports to the United Kingdom to total exports shews a fractional advance.

| | Total quantity sold * | Average price * | Dust sold on account of gardens * | Average price * | Quantity *ex* Calcutta auctions consumed locally * | Direct shipments to foreign markets * | Percentage of shipments to United Kingdom to total shipments from Calcutta |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | A. P. | lbs | A. P. | lbs | lbs | lbs |
| 1907-08 . . | 69,371,755 | 6 11 | 3,805,130 | 6 6 | 2,814,820 | 52,778,290 | 69·1 |
| 1908-09 . . | 68,904,735 | 5 11·7 | 4,093,550 | 4 11 | 1,895,009 | 52,758,197 | 69·8 |
| 1909-10 . . | 70,265,705 | 6 10 | 4,465,095 | 5 5 | 2,504,138 | 55,554,721 | 69·8 |

Some leading brokers think it probable that if larger supplies of certain grades had been on offer, a more extensive foreign trade might have been done without sacrifice of price and corresponding relief would have been given to Mincing Lane. It will be seen that the average price in the Calcutta sale room was nearly an anna per lb higher than in 1908-09, but fractionally lower than in 1907-08. The average London price in 1909 was 8·3*d* as compared with 7·9*d* in 1908 and 8·2*d* in the previous year.

The output of **Ceylon tea** does not yet seem to have been affected by rubber production and the exports from Java are steadily increasing, though the volume of her total exports is at present only one-eighth of those from India. The shipments to Holland and the United Kingdom in 1909 amounted to $20\frac{1}{2}$ and $12\frac{1}{4}$ million lbs respectively, and the statistics do not support the apprehensions which have been expressed in some quarters that the Australian market is to be made Java's principal objective. The figures for 1909 amounted to 701,000 lbs only, as compared with 335,100 lbs in 1908 and 725,000 lbs in 1907.

The recent extension of the Port Commissioners' warehouse at Kidderpore has given increased facilities for blending and repacking at the Docks.

The trade in **green tea** shows again a marked decline, and while the prices for black tea remain at last year's level, there is no inducement to growers to manufacture the other.

From a study of the ratios of area and production of tea in India during the last twenty-five years it would seem that, while the former has scarcely

* Taken from Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.'s Circular

doubled itself, the latter is nearly four times as great, which points to better methods of cultivation and better work on the plantations, but also suggests that no very great further increase of production should be anticipated and that therefore there is no immediate danger of supply outrunning demand and again depressing tea prices.

| | Area | Production | | Area | Production |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1885 . . . | 100 | 100 | 1906 . . . | 188 | 337 |
| 1890 . . . | 121 | 157 | 1907 . . . | 190 | 341 |
| 1895 . . . | 146 | 200 | 1908 . . . | 193 | 345 |
| 1900 . . . | 185 | 276 | 1909 . . . | 195 | 367 |
| 1905 . . . | 188 | 309 | | | |

The following figures show the quantity and value of tea exported from India during the last five years :

| | Quantity lbs | Value R | | £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . | 214,223,788 | 8,84,76,037 | = | 5,898,402 |
| 1906-07 . . | 233,653,637 | 9,85,77,612 | | 6,571,813 |
| 1907-08 . . | 227,021,657 | 10,30,03,486 | | 6,866,899 |
| 1908-09 . . | 233,961,538 | 10,39,37,124 | | 6,929,141 |
| 1909-10 . . | 249,412,934 | 11,70,74,038 | | 7,804,936 |

The figures for 1909-10 represent a record both in quantity and value. The increase is one of 15·45 million pounds or 6·6 per cent in quantity and of R131·37 lakhs (£875,800) or 12·7 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being 6·8 per cent.

The export trade is practically confined to two ports, Calcutta shipping 71·8 per cent and Chitagong 20·8 per cent, the balance being distributed between Tuticorin, Cochin, and Calicut in the Madras Presidency. There is likely, however, to be a dévelopement in the despatches from these latter as tea cultivation extends in Southern India, where in several planting districts alone or in conjunction with rubber, it is superseding old-established coffee. Shipments from the Madras Presidency in 1909-10 amounted to 17,094,516 lbs, which is equivalent to half the total exports from Java.

The receipts into the treasuries in the several provinces on account of the **Tea Cess Fund** during 1909-10 were reported to be R3,33,706 (£22,247) as against R3,17,058 (£21,137) in 1908-09. The **bounty on green tea** has been, at least temporarily, suspended.

The recorded exports of **green tea** during the past three years have been—

| | lbs |
|---|---|
| 1907-08 . . . . | 950,127 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 754,186 |
| 1909-10 . . . . | 313,126 |

## III.—METALS AND MANUFACTURES

The exports of metals and manufactures thereof still occupy a very modest position, representing less than one per cent of the total exports (excluding treasure). **Manganese ore** is the only item of importance and that of recent expansion, the increasing exports of which have swollen the total values of the class from R58·26 lakhs (£388,400) to over 110·7 lakhs (£738,000) in the past quinquennium.

The total quantity of Indian **metals** exported increased from 450,050 to 525,989 tons and the value from R85·17 lakhs (£567,800) to R106·27

lakhs (£708,500), the percentages of increase being 16·9 in quantity and 24·8 in value. These figures are not of much significance as the values of the different descriptions of metals included in the head vary so much and the declared values of free exports are not so accurate as in the case of dutiable articles. For instance, **brass and copper (wrought),** which represents only 3·2 per cent of the total exports of Indian metals, had an average value of R88-1-9 (£5-17-5¾) per cwt against R84-10-6 (£5-12-10½*d*) in 1908-09 and R79-6-5 (£5-5-10½*d*) in 1907-08, while the specific value of **manganese ore,** representing 74·4 per cent of the total against 89·2 per cent in 1908-09, fell from 14·2 annas (or pence) in 1907-08 and 13·87 annas (or pence) in 1908-09 to 12·64 annas (or pence) in the year under review. The demand for manganese ore is intimately contingent upon activity in the iron and steel trades. The Caucasus was formerly the chief source of the world's supply, but the war with Japan encouraged the exploitation of all available sources in India, and the exports from this country rose from 180,945 tons in 1904-05 to 316,694 tons in 1905-06 and 492,993 tons in 1906-07. Just when Russia had come forward again as a competitor, the American crisis in 1907 paralysed for a time the iron and steel trades, and several of the new manganese concerns found themselves in a rapidly falling market saddled with heavy stocks won by clumsy and costly methods and containing low percentages of the metal. Revival of demand has helped to clear these stocks very considerably during the past eighteen months, if at prices which can have given little profit to the exporters, but the market outlook is now decidedly more hopeful. The quantity of ore exported from India rose from 438,013 tons in 1908-09 to 500,344 tons in 1909-10 or by 14·2 per cent, while the value advanced from R75·97 lakhs (£506,500) to R79·1 lakhs (£527,300).

These figures do not include the heavy shipments, chiefly from mines in British India, through the Portuguese port of Marmagoa.

Of the total the United Kingdom took 165,903 tons or 33·1 per cent, where the manufacture of ferro-manganese has recently developed considerably, while the United States received 148,940 tons or 29·7 per cent, Belgium coming next with 103,935 tons equivalent to 20·7 per cent, and France standing fourth on the list with 64,865 tons or 12·9 per cent.

The omnibus heading "Other sorts" shows a value of R23·8 lakhs (£159,000), which is four times as much as the value of 1908-09 and 73·1 per cent more than in 1907-08. The metals comprised under the head are mainly :—

| | Cwts | R (Lakhs) | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chromite . . . . | 87,110 | 1·93 | = 12,900 |
| Iron, old . . . . | 206,014 | 2·65 | 17,700 |
| „ pig . . . . | 63,109 | 1·58 | 10,500 |
| „ wrought . . . | 10,009 | 1·01 | 6,700 |
| Lead, pig . . . . | 137,910 | 13·80 | 92,000 |
| Tin ore . . . . | 2,315 | 1·40 | 9,300 |

The increased exports of **lead** from Burma account for an increase of R13·58 lakhs (£90,500) under that head. The ore comes from the Bawdwin mines in the Northern Shan States, and is smelted in Mandalay before shipment to Europe. In 1909, 5,888 tons of ore valued at R11,03,994 (£73,600) were won as compared with only 320 tons valued at R62,400 (£4,160) in 1908.

## IV.—CHEMICALS, DRUGS, NARCOTICS, AND DYES

**Saltpetre** and **borax** practically represent all the chemicals exported from India, and of these **Saltpetre** is considerably the more important, though the trade is fluctuating and non-progressive. The cause of decline in the year under review is said to be the lower prices prevailing for **nitrates** and smaller shipments to Europe and the United States consequent thereon. The quantity exported fell from 400,271 to 358,232 cwts or by 10·5 per cent and the value from ₹45·35 lakhs (£302,300) to ₹39·14 lakhs (£261,000) or by 13·7 per cent. This marks a decline of 3·5 per cent in average value per unit.

The trade in **Borax,** which is received by land from Tibet, is also fluctuating. The exports amounted to 5,976 cwts with a value of ₹1·12 lakhs (£7,500), being more than double the trade of 1908-09. The specific value, however, declined by 2 per cent from ₹19. 2as 3 pies (£1 5*s* 6¼*d*) to ₹18 12as 4 pies (£1 5*s* 0⅓*d*) per cwt.

The exports of **Chinchona bark** have not yet made good the decline recorded in 1908-09. The quantity amounted to 389,200 lbs, valued at ₹86,796 (£5,786), as compared with 312,037 lbs, valued at ₹67,030 (£4,469), in 1908-09, and in spite of the competition of Java bark which is said to yield a higher percentage of sulphate, the specific value has advanced from 3·44 annas (or pence) to 3·57 annas (or pence) per lb. It mostly goes from Madras to the United Kingdom.

**Opium.**—The opium trade during the latter half of the year was distinguished by a remarkable and unprecedented advance in prices which continued until May 1910. In 1908-09 the average price for a chest of Malwa opium was ₹1,297 (£86 9*s* 4*d*) and for Bengal ₹1,384 (£92 5*s* 4*d*). Prices kept in the neighbourhood of ₹1,600—1,700 (£106 13*s* 4*d* to £113 6*s* 8*d*) from August until January when there was a sharp rise to ₹2,044 (£136 5*s* 4*d*) and at the March auction Behar opium fetched ₹2,350 (£156 13*s* 4*d*) and Benares opium ₹2,308 (£153 17*s* 4*d*), while business was done in Malwa opium in Bombay at ₹2,700 (£180) per chest.

The area under poppy in the Bihar and Benares Agencies has been further concentrated and reduced from 384,016 to 359,375 acres. The number of chests of Bengal opium offered for sale in 1909 was 43,200 as compared with 46,800 in 1908, and the figures for 1910 and 1911 are 39,600 and 31,440 chests respectively.

The following statement shows the quantities of opium exported from Bengal and Bombay respectively in each of the last five years, together with the total value *in thousands* and the average prices:

| | Exports | | | | | *Average price per chest* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal | Bombay | Total | Value | | Bengal | | Bombay | |
| | chests | chests | chests | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1905-06 | 48,833 | 14,103 | 62,936 | 9,47,18 = | 6,315 | 1,438 = | 96 | 1,736 = | 116 |
| 1906-07 | 53,588 | 12,686 | 66,274 | 9,30,79 | 6,205 | 1,381 | 92 | 1,501 | 100 |
| 1907-08 | 47,440 | 16,320 | 63,760 | 8,67,25 | 5,782 | 1,347 | 90 | 1,399 | 93 |
| 1908-09 | 44,970 | 21,987 | 66,957 | 9,34,92 | 6,233 | 1,400 | 93 | 1,388 | 92 |
| 1909-10 | 43,465 | 12,726 | 56,191 | 9,31,56 | 6,209 | 1,578 | 105 | 1,930 | 129 |

In the year under review there was a total decline of 10,766 chests or 16·1 per cent in quantity and of ₹3·56 lakhs (£23,700) or ·38 per cent in value and the average declared value rose by 18·4 per cent. In Bombay, the port of shipment for Malwa opium, there was a fall of 9,261 chests or 42·1 per cent, but the average declared value rose by 39 per cent. The exports from Bengal also declined by 1,505 chests or 3·3 per cent, but the average value per unit increased by 12·7 per cent to ₹1,578 (£105 4*s*), which closely approximated to the record figure for 1904-05. As regards the distribution of this trade, the direct exports to Hongkong fell by 6,008 chests or 16·2 per cent to 30,956 chests and to the Treaty Ports of China by 5,282 chests or 33·4 per cent to 10,512 chests. Shipments to the Straits Settlements amounted to 11,140 chests, of which 1,827 chests were re-shipped to Siam and 942 chests to Sumatra, while 2,443 chests were destined for China.

**Tobacco.**—The figures of export during each of the last three years are given below:

| | Unmanufactured | | | Manufactured | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| 1907-08 . | 176,110 | 18,07,563 | =120,504 | 12,807 | 11,24,228 | =74,949 |
| 1908-09 . | 93,414 | 11,78,727 | 78,582 | 13,076 | 11,42,954 | 76,197 |
| 1909-10 . | 94,961 | 13,32,516 | 88,834 | 14,189 | 12,25,776 | 81,718 |

The total exports of tobacco of all descriptions amounted to 109,150 cwts valued at ₹25·58 lakhs (£170,000) as against 106,490 cwts valued at ₹23·21 lakhs (£155,000) in 1908-09. The increased consumption of Indian leaf for factory-made cigarettes and *biris* accounts for the decline in the exports of unmanufactured tobacco since 1907-08.

In **unmanufactured** descriptions the slight advance of 1·7 per cent in quantity and 13 per cent in value upon the figures for 1908-09 leaves the totals very far below those of the previous year. The average value rose by 11·2 per cent from ₹12-9-11 (16*s*. 10*d*.) to ₹14-0-6 (18*s*. 8½*d*.) per cwt. Most of this leaf goes to Aden (₹7·12 lakhs=£47,500), the Straits (₹2·87 lakhs=£19,100), France (₹1·85 lakhs=£12,300), Holland (₹70,830=£4,722), and Ceylon (₹30,895 =£2,060), and is intended not so much for manufacturing purposes as for consumption in the *hookah*.

In **manufactured** classes, mostly of cigars, the increase was 8·5 per cent in quantity and 7·2 per cent in value, the fall in average value being 1·1 per cent. Of these the principal customers are the Straits (₹7·1 lakhs=£47,800), the United Kingdom (₹2·28 lakhs=£15,200), Siam (₹39,170=£2,610), and Gibraltar (₹34,998=£2,333).

Since the close of the year the duty on imported unmanufactured leaf has affected the export trade in Indian cheroots which have wrappers of "Sumatra" or Borneo tobacco. Arrangements are, however, in progress for their manufacture for the foreign (chiefly, London and South African) markets in bond, and meanwhile the leading Madras firm interested has transferred the export branch of its factory from Dindigul to Pondicherry. "Burma" cheroots, made for the most part of "lanka" tobacco from the Godavery and Vizagapatam districts of the Madras Presidency rolled in Rangoon, are unaffected by the new tariff.

**Indigo.**—There is little satisfaction to be extracted from an examination of the statistics relating to natural indigo. The crop usually comes on the market in December and the export season completed before the end of the

statistical year. The final forecast for 1909-10 shewed an increase of 2·3 per cent in area and of 2 per cent in estimated outturn as compared with the preceding season, but this should not be taken as an indication of any industrial revival, however small, for the Bengal crop was 20 per cent in defect, the deficiency of winter rain affected the sowings in February, and the heavy rainfall at the end of August destroyed the hopes of a good return from the second cuttings. The Bihar outturn in fact is the lowest on record. The official estimate of yield was 11,400 cwts and the trade estimate 10,700 cwts. In spite of every discouragement, however, research work still continues and the results of Baron Schrottky's experiments with a new ferment food and a second steeping have already been tested on a commercial scale. It is argued that the price of synthetic indigo is very near the cost of production, and that, if an increased volume of indigotin is extracted from the plant by a process not proportionately more expensive than those at present employed, the natural product will be able to compete more successfully with the artificial. The introduction of the Java Natal plant has reduced cultivation expenses and in a good season the yield per acre shows material advance. The following statement shows the exports of indigo in 1909-10 and the five previous years together with approximate quotations of average price per cwt in London:

| | From Calcutta | From Madras ports | From other ports | Total | Value | | Average price per cwt in London |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | Cwts | ₹ | £ | £ s. d. |
| 1904-05 . | 30,029 | 11,901 | 7,322 | 49,252 | 83,46,000 | =556,000 | 19 12 0 |
| 1905-06 . | 19,062 | 7,756 | 4,368 | 31,186 | 58,64,000 | 391,000 | 19 7 4 |
| 1906-07 . | 19,309 | 11,159 | 4,634 | 35,102 | 70,05,000 | 467,000 | 20 6 0 |
| 1907-08 . | 16,627 | 10,619 | 5,244 | 32,490 | 63,73,000 | 425,000 | 20 1 4 |
| 1908-09 . | 17,698 | 4,636 | 2,612 | 24,946 | 49,05,000 | 327,000 | 20 10 8 |
| 1909-10 . | 11,221 | 3,655 | 3,185 | 18,061 | 35,18,000 | 234,000 | 20 1 4 |

Fourteen years ago the total was 169,525 cwts, valued at ₹4·37 crores (£2·91 millions). Although fine qualities were scarce, the level of prices in Calcutta in 1909-10 was slightly higher than in the previous year. They opened at an average of ₹153 (£10 4*s.*) per factory maund, which is equal to ₹238 (£15 17*s.* 4*d.*) per cwt, and closed at an average of ₹162 (£10 16*s.*). The average prices for the season works out at ₹157 (£10 9*s.* 4*d.*) per factory maund. In the distribution of exports the most striking decline is in the figures for the United Kingdom, which have fallen by no less than 7,344 cwts or 71·9 per cent to 2,865 cwts and the Continent of Europe reduced its demand from 4,506 to 3,243 cwts. The general quality of the crop being poor and the Eastern demand considerable, business with Russia, *viâ* the Black Sea fell short of the principal dealers' anticipations. Shipments to Egypt, chiefly "for orders," amounted to 2,586 cwts against 3,351 cwts in 1908-09, but the demand in Asiatic Turkey was stronger, the figures being 4,387 cwts against 3,309 cwts in the previous year. In Persia also, where the prohibition of the synthetic substitute is tending to become operative, the advance is from 1,170 to 2,730 cwts and there is a small but steady Japanese demand. She took 1,012 cwts against 804 cwts in 1908-09, but the United States imports fell from 1,295 to 1,027 cwts

**Other dyeing and tanning materials.**—Until 1907-08 indigo represented more than half the total value of dyeing and tanning materials exported, but has fallen in the last two years to 38 and 31 per cent, while the trade in Myrobalans, which remains remarkably steady now, represents 53 per

cent of the whole. The table gives details of the exports for the past three years:

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| Myrobalans | 1,493,294 | 58,95,246 | = 393,016 | 1,466,840 | 57,20,302 | = 381,353 | 1,467,104 | 60,00,413 | 400,027 |
| Indigo | 32,490 | 63,72,734 | 424,849 | 24,946 | 49,04,791 | 326,986 | 18,061 | 35,18,154 | 234,544 |
| Turmeric | 82,844 | 9,91,081 | 66,072 | 91,416 | 9,59,666 | 63,978 | 79,934 | 8,00,525 | 53,368 |
| Cutch | 91,690 | 14,47,581 | 96,505 | 62,812 | 9,25,242 | 61,683 | 40,712 | 6,74,086 | 44,939 |

Of tanning materials **Myrobalans** form by far the most important material, but though exports do not show expansion, the specific value rose by 4·9 per cent. The exports of **Turmeric**, after considerable advances in the preceding two years, fell by 12·6 per cent in quantity and 16·6 per cent in value, marking a fall of 4·6 per cent in specific value. The trade in **Cutch** has been steadily declining since 1903-04 and the exports in 1909-10 represent no more than a third of the values of that year's trade. Compared with 1908-09, the decline was one of 35·2 per cent in quantity, 27·1 per cent in value, equivalent to a rise of 12·4 per cent in specific value, but the year closed with a stronger demand and some anticipation of a revival of prices.

## V.—OILS

This is a major head of little importance, forming less than one per cent of the total value of exports of merchandise from India.

The total values under this class, which comprises animal, essential, mineral, and vegetable oils, showed a substantial increase by ₹26·42 lakhs (£176,000), or 28 per cent, to ₹120·86 lakhs (£805,700), which exceeds the record figures (₹100·31 lakhs=£668,700) for 1904-05.

**Animal oils** shew a marked contraction from 69,186 gallons valued at ₹39,193 (£2,613) to 40,861 gallons valued at ₹31,991 (£2,133).

Under **essential oils**, lemon grass oil exported from the Madras Presidency is by far the most important, amounting to 11,815 gallons valued at ₹1·89 lakhs (£12,600). The average value works out as in 1908-09 at ₹16 (£1 1*s*. 4*d*.) per gallon, as compared with ₹38 (£2 10*s*. 8*d*.) in 1906-07 and ₹24 (£1 12*s*.) in 1907-08.

The exports of **mineral oil** advanced from 1,836,557 gallons, valued at ₹1·83 lakhs (£12,200), to 4,651,205 gallons, valued at ₹8·94 lakhs (£59,600), of which Burma exported 786,852 gallons (₹3·93 lakhs =£26,200) of kerosene oil and 3,852,160 gallons (₹4·95 lakhs =£33,000) mainly, **fuel oil** contracted for, in part, by the British Admiralty. The trade is much more important commercially than the totals suggest. In the last two years seven new companies have been floated to further exploit the oil deposits of Burma, with an aggregate nominal capital of ₹340 lakhs (£2,267,000). The immediate destinations of kerosene oil were Singapore (494,324 gallons) and the Federated Malay States (291,944 gallons), but the former is only a port of transhipment. The coastal exports of Burma oil to India proper rose from 67·32 million gallons in 1908-09 to 84·28 million gallons. The declared values per gallon of kerosene remained stationary at 8 annas (or pence), but of other mineral oil rose from 1 anna 7 pies (1 $\frac{7}{12}$*d*.) to 2 annas 1 pie (2 $\frac{1}{12}$*d*.) per gallon. The corresponding prices per gallon of the vegetable illuminants most commonly used by the people are given below:

| | 1908-09 | | | | 1909-10 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ *a*. *p*. | | *s*. | *d*. | ₹ *a*. *p*. | | *s*. | *d*. |
| Castor oil | 1 5 7 | = | 1 | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 1 3 3 | = | 1 | 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Cocoanut oil | 1 6 8 | | 1 | 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 1 7 10 | | 1 | 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Mustard oil | 1 13 6 | | 2 | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 1 7 5 | | 1 | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

**Vegetable oils** constitute statistically the most important sub-head, the values representing about 54 per cent of the total. In 1909-10 the total increased from R63·71 lakhs (£424,700) to R65·04 lakhs (£433,600) or by 2·1 per cent. There was a decline both under **castor** and **cocoanut oil**. The former declined by 18·6 per cent to R12·08 lakhs (£80,500) and the latter by 6·6 per cent to R37·63 lakhs (£250,900) in place of R14·84 lakhs (£99,000) and R40·32 lakhs (£268,800), respectively, in 1908-09. Castor oil is chiefly exported from Calcutta to Australasia, the Straits, and the United Kingdom, and cocoanut oil, largely used in soap manufacturing, mainly from Madras to Germany, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom. The price of cocoanut oil rose from £30 to £40 a ton during the year, owing to shortage of copra and the increasing consumption of the better class of oils for the production of edible fats. The trade in **linseed oil**, which was much contracted owing to the failure of the crops in the two previous years, showed great improvement—the total values rising from R64,605 (£4,307) to R5·14 lakhs (£34,300). It is shipped chiefly from Bengal to Japan (85,000 gallons), China (75,000 gallons), Australasia (77,000 gallons), and the United Kingdon (40,000 gallons). The rise in specific value was in sympathy with the strong upward movement in linseed. The exports of **mustard and sesamum oils** also advanced by 42·2 and 22·5 per cent to R4·48 lakhs (£29,870) and R3·86 lakhs (£25,730) respectively. The former is chiefly exported from Bengal to Natal (95,000 gallons) and Mauritius (126,000 gallons), and the latter from Bombay and Madras to Mauritius (100,000 gallons), Arabia (56,000 gallons), and Ceylon (41,000 gallons).

The exports of **ground nut oil** have expanded during the last two years, the totals in 1908-09 being 93,080 gallons and in 1909-10 91,955 gallons as compared with only 16,608 gallons in 1906-07 and 7,814 in 1905-06. There are considerable exports of nuts coastwise from Burma to Bengal, part of which re-appear as foreign exports in the form of oil, and though the methods of extraction employed in Madras are generally primitive, considerable quantities of oil are shipped to Burma from that Presidency.

The trade in **paraffin wax** refined from the oil in Rangoon is rapidly expanding. In a single year it has increased from 92,846 cwts with a value of R21·99 lakhs (£146,600) to 173,211 cwts with a value of R40·02 lakhs, (£267,000), due to larger shipments to the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australasia, Japan, and East Africa. 42,256 cwts of **candles** valued at R13·20 lakhs (£88,000) manufactured from Burma petroleum were exported during the twelve months, the principal markets being China and the Straits, but Australia and the Philippines took considerably larger supplies than in 1908-09.

## VI.—RAW MATERIALS

**Coal.**—The export trade in **Coal** continues exceedingly unenterprising, and even the dislocation caused by the prolonged strike in Australia was not taken full advantage of, the quality of some of the coal shipped being so bad as to seriously prejudice further demand. The export of coal in 1909-10 represented no more than ·8 per cent of the export of raw materials and ·36 per cent of the exports of Indian merchandise, the average for three years ending 1909-10 representing ·78 and ·35 per cent respectively. The quantity of coal and coke exported in 1909-10 was 758,828 tons as compared with 571,582 tons in 1908-09 an increase of 32·8 per cent. There was a corresponding increase in value from R50·51 lakhs (£337,000) to R67·14 lakhs (£447,600) or 32·9 per cent.

The production of Indian coal during 1909 is estimated at 11,870,114 tons as against 12,769,635 tons in 1908.

The following table shows the supply of coal retained for internal consumption exclusive of previous stocks in the ports of Calcutta and Bombay and in each province during 1909:

| | Production tons | Imports (by sea, rail and river) tons | Exports (by sea, rail and river) tons | Balance for internal consumption tons |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Calcutta | ... | 4,372,228 | 3,664,385 | 707,843 |
| Bengal (excluding Calcutta) | 10,660,811 | 20,021 | 6,418,313 | 4,262,519 |
| Bombay Port | ... | 1,116,167 | 242,325 | 873,842 |
| Bombay Presidency (excluding Bombay Port) | ... | 500,998 | 28,786 | 472,212 |
| Sind and British Baluchistan | 52,449 | 577,049 | 332,618 | 296,880 |
| Madras | ... | 642,802 | 144,712 | 498,090 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam | 305,563 | 351,036 | 22,952 | 633,647 |
| United Provinces | ... | 881,898 | 7,854 | 874,044 |
| Panjab including North-West Frontier Province | 37,304 | 637,899 | 1,238 | 673,965 |
| Central Provinces and Berar | 238,100 | 202,606 | 12,432 | 428,274 |
| Burma | ... | 429,112 | 79 | 429,033 |
| Rajputana and Central India | 132,995 | 249,590 | 64,837 | 317,748 |
| Nizam's Territory | 442,892 | 6,090 | 301,038 | 147,944 |
| Mysore | ... | 106,410 | 7 | 106,403 |
| Kashmir | ... | 3,868 | 6 | 3,862 |
| TOTAL | 11,870,114 | 10,097,774 | 11,241,582 | 10,726,306 |

49 per cent of the coal exported (370,570 tons as against 354,355 tons in 1908-09) was declared for Ceylon, and exports to the Straits, representing nearly 23 per cent, rose from 107,615 to 173,214 tons, while those to Sumatra fell from 85,535 to 78,883 tons and to Aden from 11,224 to 3,460 tons. Australia absorbed 121,096 tons as compared with 2,500 tons in 1907-08, there having been no export in 1908-09.

Calcutta was the port of shipment for all exports except 457 tons from Bombay and 4 tons from Burma. Shipment of bunker coal for use in steamers declined from 1,000,443 to 893,326 tons, and shipments coastwise to other Indian ports fell to 2,077,081 tons, a decrease of 384,228 tons on the figures of 1908-09, partly due to reduced consignments to Bombay, where Welsh coal is in increasing demand, and partly due to increased despatches by rail direct from pit's mouth to consumers to reduce loss by pulverization. Madras mills have contracted for 150,000 tons in this way. The fact that Bengal coal travels badly perhaps explains why the Ceylon and Mauritius Governments have both declared a preference for Natal coal. The total despatches by rail amounted to 740,000 tons, and by river to 145,000 tons.

A Railway test made during the year under review with shipments of first class Bengal coal, of Natal coal, and of Australian coal gave the following result: Bengal coal ran 26 lbs per train mile, Natal 27 lbs per train mile, and Australian 30 lbs per train mile.

The prices of first class Jherria Bengal coal per ton in wagon during the last five official years have been as follows:—

| | Lowest | | | | Highest | | | | Average | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ a. p. | = | s. | d. | ₹ a. p. | = | s. | d. | ₹ a. p. | = | s. | d. |
| 1905-06 . | 2 4 0 | = | 3 | 0 | 3 12 0 | = | 5 | 0 | 2 10 6 | = | 3 | 6½ |
| 1906-07 . | 3 8 0 | | 4 | 8 | 6 0 0 | | 8 | 0 | 4 5 5 | | 5 | 9 5/12 |
| 1907-08 . | 5 0 0 | | 6 | 8 | 6 8 0 | | 8 | 8 | 6 0 0 | | 8 | 0 |
| 1908-09 . | 4 0 0 | | 5 | 4 | 8 8 0 | | 11 | 4 | 5 7 8 | | 7 | 3⅔ |
| 1909-10 . | 2 12 0 | | 3 | 8 | 3 12 0 | | 5 | 0 | 3 0 10 | | 4 | 0⅚ |

The level of prices was lower than it has been for four years and second class coals are practically unsaleable. More than half the Coal Companies registered paid no dividends during the twelve months and the share transactions were on an exiguous scale and confined to a very small range of stocks.

Exports of coke amounted to 1,834 tons in place of 1,656 tons in 1908-09, the bulk of which went to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements.

**Cotton.**—On the average of the three years ending 1908-09 raw cotton represented 30 per cent of the total value of raw materials exported from India. In the year under review the proportion rose to the extraordinary figure of 37·5 per cent.

The statistics for the first half of the year represent the exports of the 1908-09 crop and those of the last half year the shipments of the new crop which began to come into commercial consideration in Bombay in October last. The following table intends to exhibit the exports for each crop separately :

| Crop year | | Exports bales | Total for season bales | Total for statistical year bales | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1907-08 | 1 Oct. '07—31 Mar. '08 | 882,779 | 1,683,981 | | |
| | 1 Apl. '08—30 Sept. '08 | 801,202 | | 1,903,555 | 1908-09 |
| 1908-09 | 1 Oct. '08—31 Mar. '09 | 1,102,353 | 2,014,956 | | |
| | 1 Apl. '09—30 Sept. '09 | 912,603 | | 2,496,456 | 1909-10 |
| 1909-10 | 1 Oct. 09—31 Mar. '10 | 1,583,853 | | | |

The American crop of 1908-09 amounted to the record figure of 13,850,000 bales, but in the early summer of 1909 misgivings began to be felt about the crop of 1909-10, which were no doubt aggravated by the tactics of bull operators in America. From July onwards the price of American cotton rose rapidly and the rates for the raw material in other parts of the world advanced in sympathy. In August it became clear that the Egyptian crop, of which the highest hopes had been formed, was also going to be short, but the season in India was exceedingly favourable and the new crop, which was not only very large but also was harvested somewhat early, came into sight in Bombay at the psychological moment. The Indian cultivator and exporter have therefore had a bumper year, but the millowner has had to face increased cost of raw material without proportionate rise in the sale value of his yarn and cloth.

Japanese buyers were very active at the beginning of the season and the bulk of the shipments as usual was divided between the Far East and the Continent. The seaborne trade statistics do not support the allegation sometimes advanced that India exports raw cotton and repurchases it as yarn, for the countries, which participate in the former market, send practically no yarn to this country. It is of interest to record that a trial consignment

of Indian cotton went during the year under review *viâ* the United Kingdom to Carolina, the very centre of the Sea Island cotton trade. Promising experiments are being made in Tinnevelly with Cambodia cotton, but no Egyptian cotton was grown in Sind.

The following are the prices of middling upland American cotton at Liverpool in the last three years stated in pennies and decimals of a penny per lb :—

| At Liverpool— | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Opening | 5·9 | 5·77 | 5·07 |
| Highest | 7·57 | 6·7 | 8·5 |
| Lowest | 5·66 | 4·8 | 4·93 |
| Closing | 5·69 | 5·05 | 8·5 |
| Average | 6·62 | 5·49 | 5·5 |

Prices of good Broach in Bombay during the last three years were as follows in annas and decimals of an anna per lb :—

| At Bombay— | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Opening | 5·14 | 5·33 | 4·9 |
| Highest | 5·59 | 5·33 | 6·78 |
| Lowest | 5·04 | 4·41 | 4·9 |
| Closing | 5·14 | 4·94 | 6·78 |
| Average | 5·37 | 4·68 | 5·82 |

In India the mill consumption decreased by about 283,300 cwts or by 4·6 per cent from 6,164,800 to 5,881,500 cwts. This figure allows for wastage and is equivalent to 1,646,800 bales of 400 lbs each.

The following figures give a summary of export trade in the last five years, *the unit being 1,000 :—*

| | Exports | | | Average declared value per cwt | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | ₹ | a. | £ | s. | d. |
| 1905-06 | 7,399 | 21,34,15 = | 14,228 | 28 | 13½ | 1 | 18 | 5½ |
| 1906-07 | 7,401 | 21,97,85 | 14,652 | 29 | 11⅛ | 1 | 19 | 7⅛ |
| 1907-08 | 8,562 | 25,70,25 | 17,135 | 30 | 0⅝ | 2 | 0 | 0⅝ |
| 1908-09 | 6,798 | 19,76,85 | 13,179 | 29 | 1¼ | 1 | 18 | 9¼ |
| 1909-10 | 8,916 | 31,27,71 | 20,851 | 35 | 1¼ | 2 | 6 | 9½ |

It will be seen that there was a rise of 31·2 per cent in quantity and 58·2 in value, the advance in specific value being nearly 21 per cent.

The statement below shows the final destinations of the cotton exported during the past three years, *the unit being 1,000 :—*

| Countries of final destination | 1907-08 Cwts | 1908-09 Cwts | 1909-10 Cwts |
|---|---|---|---|
| Japan | 2,245 | 2,226 | 3,281 |
| Germany | 1,927 | 1,180 | 1,338 |
| Belgium | 1,198 | 910 | 1,070 |
| Italy | 1,065 | 852 | 936 |
| France | 558 | 390 | 409 |
| United Kingdom | 439 | 356 | 516 |
| Austria-Hungary | 626 | 382 | 689 |
| China | 138 | 220 | 335 |
| Spain | 208 | 168 | 195 |
| United States | 7 | 10 | 46 |

The shipments to Japan rose by over 1 million cwts or 47·2 per cent, Austria-Hungary almost doubled her takings, and there were considerable advances in the shipments to all the other countries in the list.

**Hides and skins, raw.**—The exports represented 5·2 per cent of the entire exports of the Indian produce. Taken together the number of **raw hides and skins** amounted to 38·3 millions, valued at R9·65 crores (£6·43 millions), as compared with 33·5 millions, valued at R8·34 crores (£5·56 millions), in 1908-09.

The following statement shows the exports from India for the last five years, *the unit being 1,000* :—

| | Hides | | | | Skins | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | No | R | £ | Cwts | No | R | £ |
| 1905-06 . | 944= | 11,532 | 5,23,38= | 3,489 | 539= | 31,521 | 4,86,49= | 3,243 |
| 1906-07 . | 1,091 | 12,917 | 6,40,90 | 4,273 | 464 | 26,866 | 4,48,49 | 2,990 |
| 1907-08 . | 680 | 8,278 | 4,31,98 | 2,880 | 310 | 17,202 | 2,73,20 | 1,821 |
| 1908-09 . | 765 | 9,651 | 4,78,48 | 3,190 | 474 | 23,810 | 3,55,38 | 2,369 |
| 1909-10 . | 837 | 10,042 | 5,12,66 | 3,418 | 616 | 28,286 | 4,52,46 | 3,016 |

The exports of **raw hides** rose by 9·4 per cent in quantity and 7·1 per cent in value, the average declared value per cwt falling by 2·1 per cent from R62-8-9 (£4-3-4¾*d*) to R61-3-8 (£4-1-7⅔*d*). This is difficult to reconcile with the trend of prices on the Continent. The average weight of a raw hide was 9·3 lbs as against 8·9 lbs in 1908-09.

Germany is the principal customer for India's raw hides, taking 338,801 cwts or 40·5 per cent worth R2·03 crores (£1·35 millions), while the exports to the United States of America in 1909-10 amounted to 73,041 cwts, valued at R34·68 lakhs (£231,200) as compared with 85,976 cwts and R40·6 lakhs (£270,700) in 1908-09.

Exports of **raw skins,** mostly goat skins, increased by 30 per cent in quantity and 27·3 per cent in value, the average value per cwt declining by 2·2 per cent. There was an increase of 9·5 per cent in the average weight. The trade, which had been depressed since the financial crisis in America at the end of 1907, has more than recovered its normal dimensions in the year under review, for Chrome leather tanning in the United States of America has affected the demand for Madras vegetable tannages and encouraged larger exports of raw goat skins from other parts of India.

The provincial distribution of the trade in this class of exports was Calcutta 69·3 per cent, Bombay 12, Sind 7·3, Burma 6·6, and Madras 4·8.

The principal countries participating in the shipments during 1909-10 were, *in units of 1,000* :—

| | Hides | | | Skins | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | per cent | R | £ | per cent |
| Germany . . . . | 2,03,23 = | 1,355 | 39·6 | 2,46 = | 16 | ·5 |
| Austria-Hungary . . | 91,23 | 608 | 17·8 | 1,66 | 11 | ·4 |
| Italy . . . . . | 68,44 | 456 | 13·3 | 3,23 | 21 | ·7 |
| Spain . . . . . | 45,08 | 301 | 8·8 | 2,32 | 15 | ·5 |
| United States of America . | 34,68 | 231 | 6·7 | 3,58,94 | 2,393 | 79·3 |
| United Kingdom . . . | 32,10 | 214 | 6·3 | 32,41 | 216 | 7·2 |
| France . . . . . | 13,02 | 87 | 2·5 | 26,70 | 178 | 5·9 |
| Holland . . . . . | 9,06 | 60 | 1·8 | 12,51 | 83 | 2·8 |

The hide market is essentially international in character. The prices for hides in India showed an upward tendency from May onwards, and the passing of the Payne-Aldrich Tariff in August, which removed the 15 per cent *ad-valorem* duty on raw hides entering the United States of America, further hardened prices by stimulating Continental competition for Indian exports. It seems to be generally assumed that hide prices are now permanently established on a higher basis, and the export duties adumbrated in France and Australia to check the diversion of hides to America will, if they materialize,

only further strengthen the general demand. **Buffalo hides "arsenic slaughtered,"** which were quoted at R7 (9*s* 4*d*) per 20 lbs in April, touched R9 (12*s*) in January, but fell back to R8 (10*s* 8*d*) in March. The latter rates were a rupee (1*s* 4*d*) higher than in the corresponding month of 1908-09. Similarly, **cow hides "North Western arsenic commissariat slaughtered"** were quoted at R20 (£1 6*s* 8*d*) in November, rose to R22 (£1 9*s* 4*d*) in December, and maintained at R25 (£1 13*s* 4*d*) from January until the close of the year, a rate R2 (2*s* 8*d*) to R3 (4*s*) higher than that obtained twelve months earlier.

**Jute.**—Raw jute has in the current year been supplanted by raw cotton as the most important single article of exportation. In 1909-10 the exports of raw jute, which in 1906-07 represented 32·9 per cent of the total value of Indian raw produce, in 1907-08 23·6 per cent and in 1908-09 29·6 per cent, fell to 18·1 per cent.

In a normal year practically the whole of a season's jute comes into commercial consideration in one official year, but in accordance with the custom of the trade, the figures of home consumption and of exports in the table below are for the twelve months ending June 30th. The estimates of area and outturn are from the Government final forecasts. The figures for the last five years, have been as follows:

| Harvest. | Area Acres | Outturn Bales (of 400 lbs) | Statistical year | Estimated Indian consumption Bales (of 400 lbs) | Exports Bales (of 400 lbs) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1905 | 3,128,000 | 8,088,000 | 1905-06 | 4,040,000 | 4,202,000 |
| 1906 | 3,483,000 | 9,127,000 | 1906-07 | 3,432,000 | 4,580,900 |
| 1907 | 3,974,000 | 9,818,000 | 1907-08 | 3,763,000 | 4,300,500 |
| 1908 | 2,857,000 | 6,399,000 | 1908-09 | 3,696,200 | 4,655,600 |
| 1909 | 2,776,000 | 7,207,000 | 1909-10 | 4,392,900 | 4,046,000 |

The country consumption of jute outside the mills is assumed to be in the neighbourhood of 5 lakhs of bales a year. Adding this to the total of the last two columns in the table above and comparing the figures thus obtained with those of the forecasts, it will be found that an excess of nearly 7 lakhs of bales in 1905-06 is made by an adverse balance of approximately the same amount in 1906-07. In 1907-08 the aggregate total is only 85 lakhs of bales as compared with the forecast estimate of 98 lakhs, but there was a very large quantity held up at the end of that season, variously estimated at from 10 to 25 per cent in the principal jute-growing districts, owing to the sudden fall in prices, and the carry-over may be as much as 12 lakhs of bales. The harvests of 1908 and 1909 were clearly much underestimated. With the credit balance above assumed from the 1907-08 season, there are large differences of 12 and 17 lakhs of bales still to be accounted for. In 1908 the harvest was unusually late and the outturn much better than seemed probable when the final forecast was issued, and this made good some portion of the deficit. There has been a disposition in some quarters to regard the assumed "normal" outturn of three bales to the acre as below the mark, but the acreage figures contain much greater possibilities of error, and to the extent that they depend upon comparisons with those of previous years, a mistake once made is the more easily perpetuated. The total acreage in 1909 may have been correctly gauged as approximately the same as in 1908, but if the shrinkage in the latter year due to the fall in prices and the counter attractions of rice growing was

over-estimated, the calculation of outturn for both seasons is affected. The trade is probably correct in assuming that the area under jute in 1908 exceeded three million acres.

The following statement shows the price of jute per bale of 400 lbs in each of the five previous years and the first week of each month of 1909-10 :

| | ₹ | a. | p. | = | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1904-05 | 36 | 8 | 5 | | 2 | 8 | 8 |
| „ 1905-06 | 44 | 11 | 7 | | 2 | 19 | 8 |
| „ 1906-07 | 60 | 4 | 4 | | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| „ 1907-08 | 41 | 12 | 0 | | 2 | 19 | 8 |
| „ 1908-09 | 38 | 12 | 0 | | 2 | 11 | 8 |
| Average, 1904-05 to 1908-09 | 45 | 0 | 1 | | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 1909—April | 33 | 8 | 0 | | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| May | 31 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| June | 29 | 8 | 0 | | 1 | 19 | 4 |
| July | 30 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| August | 32 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| September | 35 | 8 | 0 | | 2 | 7 | 4 |
| October | 33 | 8 | 0 | | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| November | 34 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| December | 30 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 1910—January | 32 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| February | 32 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| March | 32 | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| Average, 1909-10 | 32 | 1 | 4 | | 2 | 2 | 9 |

Prices fell steadily from March until July, when they touched bottom level at ₹30 (£2) per bale, but in August and September upon reports from the jute growing districts of restricted sowings and inclement weather there was a slight recovery. Prices dropped, however, again in December, as the full extent of the new crop began to come into sight, and the year closed with buyers offering ₹32 (£2 2*s* 8*d*) per bale. The average rate for Calcutta shipments during the year was ₹35 (£2 6*s* 8*d*) as compared with ₹38 (£2 10*s* 8*d*) in 1908-09. There were renewed complaints from Dundee of watering by native balers and heavy allowances were also claimed in respect of quality, and since the year closed the 'guarantee' clause in respect of 'substitute' marks has caused a deadlock in that considerable branch of business.

A record of the export trade which is maintained in cwts (1 cwt = ·28 of a bale) for the last five official years is shown in the following statement, *the unit being 1,000* :

| | Quantity | Centesimal Variations | Value | | Average value per cwt | | Centesimal Variations |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | s. | |
| 1905-06 | 14,480 | 100 | 17,12,57 = | 11,417 | 11·83 = | 15·8 | 100 |
| 1906-07 | 15,970 | 110 | 26,83,87 | 17,892 | 16·81 | 22·4 | 157 |
| 1907-08 | 14,192 | 98 | 17,97,28 | 11,982 | 12·66 | 16·9 | 105 |
| 1908-09 | 17,880 | 123 | 19,83,45 | 13,223 | 11·09 | 14·8 | 116 |
| 1909-10 | 14,608 | 101 | 15,08,83 | 10,059 | 10·31 | 13·7 | 88 |

In 1909-10 the quantity exported was less by 3,271,540 cwts or 18·3 per cent than in 1908-09 and the value declined by ₹474·62 lakhs (£3,164,000) or 23·9 per cent, the decline in specific value in 1909-10 being 7 per cent.

During the year under review the United Kingdom took 5,952,049 cwts or 712,813 cwts less than in 1908-09, her share being 40·7 per cent of the whole. Germany took 3,264,600 cwts or 22·3 per cent of total exports, which is 425,637

cwts less than in the previous year. The United States' demand fell from 3,336,060 to 1,428,615 cwts or 9·8 per cent as against 18·7 per cent of the total in 1908-09. France took 1,666,283 cwts or 11·4 per cent, Italy 726,089 cwts or 5 per cent, Austria-Hungary 703,446 cwts or 4·8 per cent, and Spain 442,468 cwts or 3 per cent, of the total.

Calcutta shipped 91·5 per cent and Chittagong 8 per cent of the total as compared with 88·4 and 11·1 per cent respectively, the balance of less than one per cent being accounted for by shipments of Bimlipatam jute (*Hibiscus Cannabinus*) from Madras ports.

**Seeds,** a class which consists almost entirely of oil-seeds,* are from a commercial point of view only less important than food grains and cotton, and represent 22·4 per cent of the entire exports of Indian raw produce. In 1909-10 the volume of trade amounted to 27,146,688 cwts valued at R18·73 crores (£12·48 millions) as against 16,242,695 cwts of the value of R11·68 crores (£7·8 millions) in 1908-09. This marks an abnormal increase of 10,903,993 cwts or 67·1 per cent in quantity and of R7·05 crores (£4·7 millions) or 60·4 per cent in value, and a slight decline of 4·2 per cent in specific value. The Indian oil-seeds crop of 1907-08 which came into statistical consideration in 1908-09 suffered so greatly from adverse seasonal conditions that it is preferable to compare this year's figures with those for the previous normal year 1907-08, in which 23,184,819 cwts valued at R16·81 crores (£11·2 millions) were exported, the rise in 1909-10 being one of 3,961,869 cwts or 17·1 per cent in quantity and R1·91 crores (£1·27 millions) or 11·4 per cent in value. The volume exceeds by one per cent the enormous figures for 1904-05 and the price per unit has risen about 30 per cent since then.

The total figures for the last five years are shown below, *the unit being 1,000 :—*

| | Cwts | R | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . | 17,576 | 10,60,92 = | 7,073 |
| 1906-07 . . | 19,736 | 13,02,17 | 8,681 |
| 1907-08 . . | 23,185 | 16,81,52 | 11,210 |
| 1908-09 . . | 16,243 | 11,67,81 | 7,785 |
| 1909-10 . . | 27,147 | 18,72,62 | 12,484 |

The quantities and values of the principal descriptions of seeds exported are shown below, *the unit being 1,000 :*

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | Percentage (values) to exports of raw produce |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ | |
| Rape . | 5,343 | 4,32,56 = | 2,884 | 2,766 | 2,36,93 = | 1,580 | 6,629 | 4,68,32 = | 3,122 | 5·6 |
| Linseed . | 6,198 | 4,78,67 | 3,191 | 3,210 | 2,55,53 | 1,704 | 4,677 | 3,92,53 | 2,617 | 4·7 |
| Sesamum . | 1,553 | 1,69,17 | 1,128 | 1,657 | 1,62,61 | 1,084 | 2,984 | 2,65,91 | 1,773 | 3·2 |
| Groundnut . | 1,524 | 1,17,89 | 786 | 1,782 | 1,35,06 | 900 | 3,243 | 2,47,00 | 1,647 | 2·9 |
| Cotton . | 4,250 | 1,31,60 | 877 | 3,683 | 1,31,27 | 875 | 5,650 | 2,03,18 | 1,355 | 2·4 |
| Castor . | 1,994 | 1,51,78 | 1,012 | 1,650 | 1,05,82 | 705 | 1,901 | 1,26,06 | 840 | 1·5 |
| Poppy . | 1,257 | 1,25,21 | 835 | 790 | 83,01 | 553 | 853 | 80,91 | 539 | ·9 |
| Mowra . | 795 | 44,56 | 297 | 407 | 24,92 | 166 | 784 | 46,71 | 311 | ·5 |
| | | | | | | | | | Total . | 21·7 |

The provincial distribution of this trade is of interest. Bombay shipped 13,973,530 cwts or 51·5 per cent with a value of R9·09 crores (£6·06 millions), Sind 5,164,908 cwts or 19 per cent with a value of R3·55 crores (£2·37 millions), Bengal 4,400,413 cwts or 16·2 per cent with a value of R3·47 crores (£2·31

* Copra is included under Fruits and Vegetables (*q. v.*)

millions), and Madras 3,330,198 cwts or 12·3 per cent, valued at R2·49 crores (£1·66 millions). The percentages of increase were 53·7 in the case of Bombay, 206·1 in Sind, 46·4 in Bengal, and 54 in Madras.

The largest item in the class is **rape and mustard**. The crop (683,000 tons) of the season 1907-08 was much below the average and exports during 1908-09 were consequently restricted. The season 1908-09 was favourable and both the area and outturn greatly exceeded the totals of the previous year. Abundant supplies in India and the continued competition of Japanese seed and oil lowered prices, the decline in specific value declared being one of 17·7 per cent, while the quantitative expansion in exports was as much as 139 per cent. The new crop of 1909-10 was estimated at 1,222,700 tons as against 987,500 tons in the preceding year, the increase being 235,200 tons or 23·8 per cent, which affords prospects of even larger exports in the current year, but at a lower range of prices. The largest buyers of rapeseed are Belgium (R167·06 lakhs = £1,113,700), Germany (R138·2 lakhs =£921,300), France (R95·65 lakhs =£637,700), and the United Kingdom (R35·98 lakhs =£239,900).

The trade in **Linseed**, which was greatly restricted last year owing to poor crops in 1907-08, revived in 1909-10, the exports shewing a rise of 45·7 per cent in quantity and 53·6 per cent in value, which resulted in an advance of 5·4 per cent in specific value. The hardening of the price of linseed in spite of increased supplies of the Manchurian soya bean has been one of the features of the year's trade. The total receipts of seed in Great Britain in 1909 amounted to 1,700,000 quarters only, as compared with the normal absorption of about 2,000,000 quarters, in spite of larger shipments from India. Russian exports were in defect, as well as those from the Argentine, and the latter's exportable surplus in the current year is likely to be much lower than the original estimate. The rise in price in London for linseed oil spot per ton of over £16 in the twelve months is to some extent independent of the rise in the price of seed, as crushers have found soya bean crushing so much more remunerative that there is an actual shortage of supplies. The Imperial forecast for 1909-10 gave an estimated outturn of 427,600 tons as against 297,700 tons in 1908-09 and 163,500 tons in 1907-08. Linseed goes chiefly to the United Kingdom (R158·40 lakhs =£1,056,000), France (R91·98 lakhs = £613,200), Italy (R44·32 lakhs = £295,500), Belgium (R39·43 lakhs = £263,000), and Germany (R31·25 lakhs =£208,300).

The **sesamum** crop of the season 1909-10 amounted to 516,000 tons, or 58,700 tons more than in the previous year, and the exports increased by 80 per cent in quantity and 63·5 per cent in value, which implies a fall of 9·2 per cent in specific value. Sesamum goes mainly to France (R114·87 lakhs =£765,800), Belgium (R66·25 lakhs =£441,700), Austria-Hungary (R37·22 lakhs =£248,100), and Germany (R21·78 lakhs =£145,200), Italy and Egypt coming last with R17·30 lakhs (£115,300) and R4·62 lakhs (£30,800) respectively.

**Cotton seed** has beaten the previous record of 1906-07. The largest quantity exported in any single year was 5,649,817 cwts in the year under review, and the value advanced from R131·27 lakhs (£875,100) to R203·18 lakhs (£1,354,500), representing an increase of 53·4 per cent in quantity and 54·8 per cent in value. Apprehension of a serious shortage of raw material as the

result of a small cotton crop further stimulated speculation in America and a 'corner' in Egypt raised prices considerably higher than the statistical advance of less than one per cent in specific value suggests. The United Kingdom took 5,402,815 cwts or 95·6 per cent of the total, France 184,024 cwts or 3·2 per cent, and Egypt a negligible quantity of 555 cwts. In addition to the above totals it is believed that the volume of exports *viâ* Marmagoa was very considerable.

There were some small and intermittent shipments of **cotton seed oil** reported, but in the absence of an established demand at remunerative rates for the cake either as a cattle-feed or manure this line is not likely to be persevered with. An attempt is being made at Cawnpore to create a demand for the oil as a *ghi* substitute, and successful experiments with cotton seed flour in conjunction with wheat for bread making are reported from America.

The exports of **Castor seed** rose by 15·2 per cent in quantity and 19·1 per cent in value, there being a rise of 3·4 per cent in specific value. The United Kingdom took more than half of the total, ₹68·23 lakhs (£454,900), Belgium ₹18·55 lakhs (£123,700), France ₹16·56 lakhs (£110,400), Italy ₹15·42 lakhs (£102,800), and Germany coming last with ₹5·46 lakhs (£36,400).

The exports of **poppyseed** rose by 8 per cent in quantity but fell by 2·5 per cent in value, there being thus a fall of 9·7 per cent in specific value. The chief purchasers are France (₹45·78 lakhs=£305,200), Belgium (₹21·71 lakhs=£145,000), and Germany (₹11·25 lakhs=£75,000).

The trade in **groundnuts** (known as pea-nuts in America) has shewn a marked revival from 1,781,849 cwts and ₹135·05 lakhs (£900,300) to 3,243,168 cwts and ₹247 lakhs (£1,647,000). The exports thus increased by 82 per cent in quantity and 82·9 per cent in value, the specific value remaining practically constant. The Indian crop of the season 1909-10 was returned at 413,700 tons of nuts in shell as against 484,700 tons in the previous season. Besides the direct exports from India noticed above, the French port of Pondicherry conducts a large proportion of the business in groundnuts as will be seen from the appended figures as far as available now:

| | Tons | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1907-08 . . . | 36,509 | 58,48,000 = | 389,870 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 50,870 | 81,16,000 = | 541,070 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 89,866 | | |

The destination of India's exports is chiefly Marseilles which accounted for 82·1 per cent of the trade last year, owing to increasing demands upon France for the oil from the United States.

Under other seeds, **mowra** and **tea** are important. The former was valued at ₹46·71 lakhs (£311,400) and the latter at ₹3·72 lakhs (£25,000). Nearly all the mowra seed went to Germany, France, and Belgium, and of tea seed Calcutta shipped 1,983 cwts and 1,066 cwts to Java and Ceylon respectively.

**Silk.**—The price of raw silk from April until December continued very low owing to uncertainty as to the terms of the new American tariff, the exceptional crops in Asia generally, and particularly in Japan, and the stagnation of trade in the United States. Tusser silks alone continued firm. The year's trading has established that, in spite of the large European consumption, Japan as producer and America as consumer are the dominating factors in the market. The prices in London of Japan silk continued firm at 16*s* 6*d* per lb until February, when it declined to 16*s* 3*d*—a quotation

which is still maintained. The production of artificial silk on a commercial scale, chiefly from cotton cellulose, is increasing, the estimated world's output in 1909 being 3,000,000 kilos as compared with 23,500,000 kilos of natural silk.

India now occupies a very modest position as an exporter, and her outside requirements are slightly greater than her shipments, though the latter in the year under review advanced from 1,833,644 to 2,075,612 lbs or by 13·2 per cent. The value, however, receded from R54·05 lakhs (£360,300) to R50·76 lakhs (£338,400), or by 6·1 per cent, which is equivalent to a fall of about 17 per cent in specific value. In **reeled mulberry silk** there was a rise of 1·9 per cent in average value, but exports declined by 15·2 per cent in quantity from 565,463 to 479,647 lbs and by 13·5 per cent in value from R45·13 lakhs (£300,900) to R39·04 lakhs (£260,300). Bengal's consignments of reeled silk, both mulberry and wild, dropped from 453,128 lbs and R34·06 lakhs (£227,000) to 319,702 lbs and R23·01 lakhs (£153,400), the average value per lb being R7-3-2 (9*s* 7$\frac{1}{6}$*d*). Bombay's trade was reduced to a negligible quantity (100 lbs valued at R300=£20). The decline in the Bengal trade was one of 29·4 per cent in quantity and 32·2 per cent in value.

The destinations of reeled silk (mulberry and wild) exported during the last three years were as follows :—

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | R | £ | lbs | R | £ | lbs | R | £ |
| To United Kingdom . | 219,712 | 16,69,993 | = 111,333 | 189,488 | 15,11,879 | = 100,791 | 46,872 | 3,46,827 | = 23,122 |
| „ France . . . | 466,849 | 34,11,345 | 227,423 | 365,273 | 28,53,200 | 190,213 | 438,235 | 35,12,728 | 234,182 |
| „ United States . . | 29,072 | 2,63,680 | 17,579 | 15,645 | 1,25,160 | 8,344 | 8,940 | 71,520 | 4,768 |
| „ Other countries . | 15,100 | 1,22,192 | 8,146 | 11,165 | 80,859 | 5,391 | 7,088 | 50,125 | 3,342 |

The exports of **waste silk** (*chasam*), of which nearly 40 per cent was wild silk, increased in quantity from 1,182,691 to 1,485,548 lbs and in value from R7·67 lakhs (£51,000) to R10·06 lakhs (£67,000). The average declared value per lb was therefore 10·8 annas (or pence) as compared with 10·4 annas (or pence) in 1908-09.

The exportation of **Cocoons**, of which 54·2 per cent was wild, rose to 88,929 lbs and R88,718 (£5,915) as against 69,387 lbs and R67,000 (£4,500) in the previous year. The average value is 15·96 annas (or pence) as against 15·45 annas (or pence) per lb in 1908-09.

**Teak timber**—The trade has not yet recovered from the depression of 1908-09. The exports of teak advanced, it is true, by 30·9 per cent from 27,214 to 35,628 cubic tons and in value by 34·9 per cent from R40·19 lakhs (£268,000) to R54·24 lakhs (£361,600). The increase is one of 8,414 cubic tons and R14·05 lakhs (£93,700). Continued short supplies in Europe have driven up prices, however, to a level which has curtailed considerably the employment of the timber for naval construction and threatens to extinguish this special demand altogether. The average price in Calcutta of teak (selected Indian, 1st class) per ton of 50 cub. ft. advanced from R120—R125 (£8 to £8 6*s* 8*d*) to R124—R129 (£8 5*s* 4*d* to £8 12*s*) during the year of report. The increase in the shipments coastwise from Burma to India proper has been elsewhere referred to.

The value of **Sandalwood**, which reached R12·07 lakhs (£80,500) in 1907-08, has declined from R10·35 lakhs (£69,000) in 1908-09 to R7·46 lakhs (£50,000) in 1909-10, Germany and France taking respectively R1·78 lakhs (£11,800) and R77,000 (£5,130) as against R3·77 lakhs (£25,100) and R2·38 lakhs (£15,800) in 1908-09. In the former country the extraction of sandal

oil has proved so unprofitable that several firms have given up the business altogether. Other countries interested are the United States (R2·14 lakhs = £14,300), the United Kingdom (R90,000=£6,000), and Egypt (R75,000 =£5,000). The bulk of the exports are from Mysore. The Mysore Darbar in 1908-09 derived no less than R10·53 lakhs (£70,200) from the sales of sandalwood.

**Wool.**—The world's woollen trade has recovered more quickly than the cotton trade from the results of the American panic in 1907. The price of the raw material has not advanced disproportionately to that of manufactures, but both have risen steadily in spite of a record Australian 'clip,' as the result of increased consumption on the Continent and a particularly strong American demand. The exports of wool from India increased from 43·4 to 59·8 million lbs and the value rose from R208·37 lakhs (£1,389,000) to R285·77 lakhs (£1,905,100). The increase is one of 38 per cent in quantity and of nearly 37·1 per cent in total value, the average value having fallen slightly owing to abundance of supplies. The United Kingdom took R277·63 lakhs (£1,851,000) against R204·68 lakhs (£1,364,500) in 1908-09. The United States took R6·9 lakhs (£46,000) against R2·69 lakhs (£18,000) in 1908-09, while shipments to Japan are negligible. Some of the wool dealt with in these figures comes from beyond the land frontiers of India; but the bulk of arrivals from Afghanistan *viâ* Chaman and Killa Abdullah are recorded on shipment at Karachi as re-exports. In 1909-10 the total re-exports by sea were 5,154,040 lbs valued at R28·8 lakhs (£192,000) against 4,994,593 lbs valued at R27·91 lakhs (£186,000) in 1908-09, of which practically the whole was consigned to the United Kingdom. There was, it will be seen, a slight rise in specific value. The price of wool in Karachi was R18 (£1 4*s*) per maund in April 1909 and R24 (£1 12*s*) per maund in March 1910.

The exports of principal **raw materials** other than those noticed in the foregoing paragraphs have been in the last three years as follows:

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Animal bones . | 54,45,034= | 363,002 | 51,78,520= | 345,235 | 53,68,641= | 357,909 |
| Bristles and fibre . | 15,44,535 | 102,969 | 20,52,121 | 136,808 | 23,18,532 | 154,569 |
| Caoutchouc . . | 5,78,397 | 38,560 | 3,19,039 | 21,269 | 5,09,904 | 33,994 |
| Hemp . . . | 80,63,544 | 537,570 | 59,68,378 | 397,892 | 59,56,928 | 397,128 |
| Horn and hornmeal . | 16,49,769 | 109,985 | 15,64,058 | 104,271 | 19,38,396 | 129,226 |
| Lac (stick and seed) | 20,59,704 | 137,314 | 5,88,612 | 39,241 | 2,38,319 | 15,888 |
| Mica . . . | 34,22,420 | 228,161 | 19,02,505 | 126,834 | 23,24,675 | 154,978 |
| Oilcake, (fodder and manure) . . | 75,17,393 | 501,160 | 89 64,118 | 597,608 | 83,00,480 | 553,365 |
| Ricebran . . | 87,82,418 | 585,495 | 64,01,973 | 426,798 | 66,65,779 | 444,385 |
| Jadestone . . | 9,84,845 | 65,656 | 10,68,351 | 71,223 | 10,72,369 | 71,491 |

Of these oilcakes, ricebran, hemp, and animal bones are relatively the most important items. The exports of **oilcakes,** both for fodder and manure, declined by 7·4 per cent from R89·64 lakhs (£597,600) to R83 lakhs (£553,000). Fodder oilcake, which chiefly goes to the United Kingdom, Germany, and Ceylon, amounted to 1,430,141 cwts valued at R54·83 lakhs (£365,500) against 1,457,115 cwts valued at R58·64 lakhs (£391,000) in 1908-09, marking a fall of 1·8 per cent in quantity and 6·5 per cent in value. Oilcakes of castor and groundnut seeds for manurial purpose fell by 13·7 per cent in quantity and 9·1 per cent in value to 39,249 tons with a value of R28·17 lakhs (£187,800). Ceylon and the United Kingdom took over R9 lakhs (£60,000) each, and Germany R3·61 lakhs (£24,000). **Ricebran** increased by R2·64 lakhs (£17,600) or 4·1

per cent to R66·66 lakhs (£444,400), but complaints of adulteration affected the level of prices. **Hemp,** chiefly *Sann,* maintained the level of the previous year with a value of R59·57 lakhs (£397,000), of which the United Kingdom took R31·52 lakhs (£210,100) and Belgium R8·78 lakhs (£58,500). Animal **bones,** which are also shipped for manurial purposes chiefly to Belgium, France, Australasia, the United Kingdom, and Germany, amounted to R53·69 lakhs (£358,000), showing an increase of R1·9 lakhs (£12,700) or 3·6 per cent over the figure for 1908-09.

The trade in **horn and hornmeal** rose by R3·74 lakhs (£25,000) or 23·9 per cent. The volume of **bristles and fibre** also increased by R2·66 lakhs (£17,700) or 13 per cent to R23·18 lakhs (£154,500). This head is almost entirely made up of pigs' " bristles, " the trade in which is divided between Bengal (R6·37 lakhs or £42,500) and Bombay (R1·98 lakhs or £13,200), and palmyra fibre, mostly exported from Madras Ports (R14·75 lakhs or £98,300).

From an industrial point of view the remaining three articles, *viz.*, **mica, lac, and caoutchouc,** deserve special notice. The exports of **mica,** which have developed in connection with electrical industries, rose by 7,571 cwts or 28·7 per cent and by R4·22 lakhs (£28,100) or 22·2 per cent to 33,963 cwts and R23·25 lakhs (£155,000). The average value fell from R72-1-5 (£4 16*s* 1½*d*.) to R68-7 annas (£4 11*s* 3*d*) or by 5 per cent. The value of **crude lac,** which is also concerned in the electrical industry, dropped by R3·5 lakhs (£23,300) or 59·4 per cent to R2·38 lakhs (£15,900), the quantity showing a decrease of 1,160 cwts or 13·5 per cent. The declared value fell from R68-3 annas (£4 10*s* 11*d*) to R31-14-5 pies (£2 2*s* 6½*d*) or by 53·2 per cent. In **caoutchouc** the quantity declined by 18 per cent to 1,611 cwts, but the value rose by 59·8 per cent to R5·10 lakhs (£34,000), marking a rise of 94·8 per cent in specific value, *i.e.* from R162-7 annas (£10 16*s* 7*d*) to to R316-8 annas (£21 2*s*) per cwt. This is in sympathy with a great rise in price of Para rubber which governs this market.

The exports of **Jadestone** mostly to Hongkong continue steady at R10·72 lakhs (£71,500), though there was a decline of 18·8 per cent in specific value.

## VII—ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

The statement below shows for the past three years the comparative values of each principal class of manufactures, the *unit in all cases being 1,000 :*

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Jute goods . . . | 18,29,76= | 12,198 | 15,73,60= | 10,491 | 17,09,65= | 11,398 |
| Cotton yarn and goods . | 10,76,66 | 7,178 | 11,53,72 | 7,691 | 11,91,56 | 7,944 |
| Tanned hides and skins . | 3,89,97 | 2,600 | 4,12,85 | 2,752 | 3,96,86 | 2,646 |
| Lac . . . . | 3,87,71 | 2,585 | 2,73,58 | 1,824 | 2,74,78 | 1,832 |
| Coir . . . . | 53,64 | 358 | 62,75 | 418 | 72,86 | 486 |
| Woollens . . . . | 27,19 | 181 | 25,05 | 167 | 24,06 | 160 |
| Apparel . . . . | 20,24 | 135 | 16,71 | 111 | 16,47 | 110 |
| Candles . . . . | 15,48 | 103 | 13,65 | 91 | 13,20 | 88 |
| Silk goods . . . | 8,31 | 55 | 7,33 | 49 | 8,17 | 54 |

The most noticeable variations have already been noted in the general summary of trade on page 6. The subjoined paragraphs attempt a detailed examination of the trade in these articles. It should not be assumed that this class is a complete measure of India's industrial export, as many articles, which are manufactured or partly manufactured, are included in special classes of the trade accounts. For example, milled rice, wheat flour, coffee,

and tea, come under "Articles of food and drink," indigo under "Dyes," and vegetable and mineral oils in the group "Oils."

**Cotton manufactures** represent 31·3 per cent of the total value of Indian manufactures exported and 6·5 per cent of the whole export trade. At the beginning of the official year the outlook was not on the whole discouraging. The China yarn market was fairly brisk, and the internal demand for cloth owing to a busy marriage season after an unpropitious year promised well and both weavers and spinners might have anticipated a fair margin of profit, had there not been an altogether unprecedented rise in the price of the raw material. In August the Dwarkadas insolvency coming upon a dull market and rising prices for raw cotton threatened to cause a panic in Bombay, and though the exceptional volume of the new Indian crop afforded some relief, spinners complained that prices of yarn did not respond proportionately to those for the raw material and forward sales even at unremunerative rates were restricted as buyers regarded them as inflated. Some negotiations were made with a view to working short time in Bombay but the number of competing interests were too great to enable any formal agreement to be arrived at.

In the following table an attempt is made to illustrate the advance in the price of raw cotton in India and in Liverpool compared with the rates prevailing for yarns and piecegoods in Bombay; but it must be remembered that spinners have generally bought cotton some time before at lower rates than prevail when their yarn or cloth is for sale and calculations made on a rising market are liable to be fallacious if this interval of time is forgotten.

| | Raw Cotton | | | | Piecegoods | | | | Yarn | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | American (per lb) | Ratio | Broach (per bale) | Ratio | T cloths, country made, (per lb) | Ratio | Grey shirtings (imported) (per piece) | Ratio | Bombay 20s. (per lb) | Ratio | Foreign 40s mule twist (per lb) | Ratio |
| | *d.* | | ₹ | | *a* | | ₹ *a* *p* | | *a* | | *a* *p* | |
| March 1908 . | 5·94 | 100 | 262 | 100 | 9 1/16 | 100 | 4 11 0 | 100 | 6 1/8 | 100 | 11 6 | 100 |
| „ 1909 . | 5· | 84 | 236 | 90 | 8 3/8 | 92 | 4 0 6 | 86 | 6 1/8 | 100 | 9 3 | 80 |
| „ 1910 . | 8·17 | 138 | 330 | 126 | 9 | 99 | 4 3 6 | 90 | 7 3/8 | 129 | 12 0 | 104 |

The Indian mill industry is still suffering from the effect of bumper profits in 1904-05. The number of mills has increased in the last three years from 223 to 236, of spindles from 5,696,994 to 6,068,464, and of looms from 65,307 to 78,898. The average production of yarn per mensem, however, has fallen from 53,191,260 to 52,280,373 lbs. The joint stock capital engaged in this industry is now ₹15·29 crores (£10·19 millions) as compared with ₹14·03 crores (£9·35 millions) in 1907-08. Capital has increased by 9 per cent, spindles by 6·5 per cent, and looms by 20·8 per cent, while the production of yarn has decreased by 1·7 per cent.

The following statement shows for each of the last five years the spinning and weaving plant in position, the production of yarn and of cloth, and the average monthly production per spindle and per loom:—

| | Spindles | Yarn production | Average monthly production per spindle | Looms | Cloth production | Average monthly production per loom |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No | lbs | lbs | No | lbs | lbs |
| 1905-06 . | 5,229,098 | 680,918,581 | 10·8 | 50,910 | 163,880,194 | 268 |
| 1906-07 . | 5,480,524 | 653,700,460 | 9·9 | 58,240 | 165,767,858 | 237 |
| 1907-08 . | 5,696,994 | 638,295,115 | 9·3 | 64,330 | 189,051,779 | 245 |
| 1908-09 . | 5,875,798 | 657,585,159 | 9·3 | 72,931 | 192,364,697 | 220 |
| 1909-10 | 6,068,848 | 627,364,476 | 8·6 | 78,898 | 208,723,227 | 242 |

There is some unavoidable overlapping in the figures in this table because some of the yarn produced in Indian mills is afterwards woven into cloth.

The total decrease in yarn production was 30·22 million lbs, while the production of cloth exceeded the record figures for 1907-08 by 155,036,000 yards or 19·2 per cent. Of the total production the Bombay mills are responsible for nearly six-sevenths.

In the last three years the number of looms in Japan has increased from 9,259 to 11,029, the output for 1909 being 45,500,000 lbs in round figures, which gives an average output per loom per month of 344 lbs.

The following statement shows the quantities and values of yarn and piecegoods exported in the last five years, *the unit being 1,000*:

| | Yarn | | | | Piecegoods | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Percentage of total production | Value | | Quantity | Percentage of total production | Value | |
| | lbs. | | R | £ | Yds | | R | £ |
| 1905-06 . | 297,634 | 43·7 | 12,38,77 = | 8,258 | 91,975 | 16·3 | 1,86,59 = | 1,244 |
| 1906-07 . | 243,517 | 37·2 | 10,39,65 | 6,931 | 76,699 | 10·8 | 1,65,37 | 1,102 |
| 1907-08 . | 215,576 | 33·8 | 8,97,30 | 5,982 | 74,128 | 9·2 | 1,63,75 | 1,092 |
| 1908-09 . | 235,469 | 35·8 | 9,68,05 | 6,454 | 77,989 | 9·5 | 1,70,36 | 1,136 |
| 1909-10 . | 227,364 | 36·2 | 9,70,91 | 6,473 | 94,137 | 9·8 | 2,04,15 | 1,361 |

If the internal absorption were known to be greater, the falling percentages of exports to total production would not provoke comment, but there is reason to think that the visible supplies of both yarn and piecegoods have increased during the last twelve months and serve to keep prices down at their present unremunerative level.

The exports of **yarn** fell by 3·4 per cent, while those of piecegoods increased by 20·7 per cent, and in values yarn (which represents 81·5 per cent of the whole) rose by R2,85,587 (£19,039) or ·3 per cent to R970·91 lakhs (£6,473,000). The exports to China represent 87·2 per cent of the total value as against 88·2 per cent in 1908-09, and in spite of a brisk demand the values fell by R7·45 lakhs (£49,700) or ·9 per cent to R846·64 lakhs (£5,644,300). The quantity of yarn shipped from the United Kingdom to the Further East in the calendar year 1909 was 6·88 million lbs as against 8·99 million lbs in 1908.

On the other hand, India's exports of yarn to countries other than China rose by R10·31 lakhs (£69,000) to R124·27 lakhs (£828,500). But the figures relating to the Straits Settlements, which shew an increase of R4·6 lakhs (£30,670) to R29·58 lakhs (£197,000), cannot be accurately distributed.

The trade with the Levant and Black Sea, which in 1908-09 had amounted to 7,450,046 lbs with a value of R28·83 lakhs (£192,200), expanded further to 8,084,942 lbs, valued at R34·38 lakhs (£229,200), but against this must be set off a decline in the shipments to Turkey in Europe from 454,240 lbs with a value of R1·53 lakhs (£10,200) in 1908-09 to 52,840 lbs, valued at R21,216 (£1,414). Egypt took 2,096,916 lbs, as against 2,089,420 lbs in the previous twelve months.

The trade with Europe has fallen from 29,171,357 lbs in 1907-08 to 5,006,346 lbs in 1908-09 and to 1,782,910 lbs in 1909-10, and is not likely to recover while the price of the raw material continues so high.

As regards piecegoods the increase in value was one of 19·8 per cent or R33·79 lakhs (£225,300) to R204·15 lakhs (£1,361,000), the specific value declining by ·46 per cent.

**Grey goods** represent 37·7 per cent of the value of piecegoods; and in that branch the trade increased by 21·6 per cent in quantity and 21 per cent in value, bringing the total to 52,976,078 yards and R76·98 lakhs (£513,200) with a

a specific value of ·5 per cent lower than in the previous year. The shipments of grey goods to China advanced from 3,647,394 yards and R4·93 lakhs (£32,900) to 5,283,414 yards and R7·14 lakhs (£47,600), the increase being 44·9 per cent in quantity and 44·8 per cent in value. In 1909 the shipments of plain cotton cloth from England to the Further East amounted to 705·95 million yards as compared with 645·14 million yards in 1908. The principal foreign markets for Indian cloth are East Africa (19,423,876 yards), Asiatic Turkey (8,634,536 yards), and Aden (8,227,013 yards).

**Coloured goods** rose to 40,842,943 yards, the increase being 6,665,207 yards or 19·5 per cent.

**Dyed and printed cloths** go mainly from Madras and Bombay to the Straits, Ceylon, and Persia; and the shipments in 1909-10 from the two provinces named had a value of R85·63 lakhs (£570,900) and R39·29 lakhs (£262,000) respectively.

The **coastwise shipment** of Indian piece goods from Bombay to other provinces rose from 211,951,000 to 256,080,000 yards or 21 per cent, the increase in value being 18 per cent from R352·7 lakhs (£2,351,000) to R417·2 lakhs (£2,781,000).

**Prices** of T cloth in 1909-10 were slightly below those for the previous year, ranging from $8\frac{3}{8}$ annas (or pence) per lb in April to 9 annas (or pence) in January. Prices of twist 20s per lb were considerably higher, the average prices in March 1910 being $7\frac{49}{64}$ annas (or pence) as compared with $6\frac{27}{40}$ annas (or pence) in April 1909.

**Jute manufactures** continue to fill a very prominent place in the export trade. In 1908-09 they represented 43 of the total value of exports of Indian manufactures. In 1909-10 the percentage rose to 44·9 per cent, though the year was marked by a further heavy fall in the price alike of the raw material and of the mill products. The erection of new and the extension of old factories with the resultant increases in output has not been altogether a healthy growth, and another contributory cause of the present stagnation would seem to lie in the increased outturn of raw jute, which in the three years ending 1908-09 exceeded by some 2 lakhs of bales the aggregate estimated world's absorption for that period. The enormous increase of acreage in 1907·08 was due to the encouragement given to the cultivators by the high prices of the two previous seasons, and there are good reasons for thinking that the fall in 1908-09 was not anything like so great as is shewn in the final forecast of that year, though the price of raw jute had dropped considerably in the meantime.

After eighteen months of curtailed production the Calcutta mills prematurely, as it would seem, resumed full time on the 1st October, when the United States market began to shew activity and the new Tariff encouraged certain classes of importations by reductions of duty. But the outlook soon changed and before the close of 1909, 80 per cent of the mills were willing to return to a 5-day week. The shortage in the Argentine wheat crop was not made good by any increased demand for bagging oilseeds, and though a fitful and intermittent demand enabled some of the mills to keep their stocks low, clearances were for the most part effected at unremunerative rates and the actual volume of trade done would be most misleading as an index of commercial prosperity. A five day week has been agreed to again from the beginning of September until March 1911, but more heroic measures will probably be necessary before the industry recovers its former buoyancy.

The following statement shows the growth in the number of **spindles** and **looms in Indian mills** in the last six years:

| | Spindles | | Looms | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percentage increase | Number | Percentage increase |
| 1904-05 . | 409,170 | 8·61 | 19,991 | 8·65 |
| 1905-06 . | 453,168 | 10·75 | 21,986 | 9·98 |
| 1906-07 . | 520,504 | 14·84 | 25,284 | 15 |
| 1907-08 . | 562,274 | 8·03 | 27,244 | 7·75 |
| 1908-09 . | 607,358 | 8·02 | 29,525 | 8·37 |
| 1909-10 . | 666,348 | 9·71 | 32,459 | 9·94 |

In 1884, when the Indian Jute Mills Association was formed, the number of looms was only 6,337. The effect of continued depression on the industry may, to some extent, be gauged by a comparison of the average value per ₹100 (£6 13*s.* 6*d.*) of share capital of 38 representative jute mills. In 1907-08, the value was ₹131 (£8 14*s.* 8*d.*), in 1908-09 it was ₹129 (£8 12*s.*), and in the year under review it had fallen to ₹116 (£7 14*s.* 8*d.*).

The following statement shows the value of the **exports of various classes of goods,** for the last five years, *the unit being 1,000:*

| | | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags . . | No. | 233,326 | 257,683 | 293,029 | 300,906 | 364,369 |
| | ₹ | 6,07,84 | 7,34,72 | 8,47,51 | 7,76,65 | 8,60,74 |
| | =£ | 4,052 | 4,898 | 5,650 | 5,178 | 5,738 |
| Cloth . . | Yards | 658,671 | 696,068 | 789,856 | 769,799 | 940,101 |
| | ₹ | 6,30.50 | 8,25,87 | 9,69,29 | 7,89,02 | 8,43,08 |
| | =£ | 4,203 | 5,506 | 6,462 | 5,260 | 5,621 |
| Value of all sorts | ₹ | 12,44,80 | 15,71,62 | 18,29,76 | 15,73,60 | 17,09,65 |
| | =£ | 8,299 | 10,477 | 12,198 | 10,491 | 11,398 |

The exports of bags increased by 63,463,000 or 21·1 per cent in number, and the value by ₹84·1 lakhs (£560,600) or 10·8 per cent, the decline in specific value being 8·5 per cent.

In **Cloth** the quantitative increase was one of 170 million yards with a fall in specific value of 12·5 per cent, whereas the fall in specific value of raw jute exported was only 7 per cent.

The United States continues to be the largest single buyer of Indian jute fabrics, the bulk of her purchases being in the form of cloth. In 1909-10 she took goods to the value of ₹617·15 lakhs (£4,114,300) against ₹522·95 lakhs (£3,486,300) in 1908-09 equivalent to an increase of 18 per cent. Australasia purchased **bags** to the value of ₹195·04 lakhs (£1,300,300), an increase of 23·5 per cent in value and 36·6 per cent in quantity upon the figures for 1908-09. Shipments to the United Kingdom fell from ₹96·14 lakhs (£641,000) to ₹ 80·19 lakhs (£534,600), a decline of nearly 16·4 per cent, and those to Germany fell from ₹23·93 lakhs (£159,500) to ₹17·41 lakhs (£116,000). The Egyptian and Turkish demand also decreased. Chile took bags chiefly for the nitrate trade valued at ₹71·12 lakhs (£474,000), an increase of nearly 53 per cent upon the figures for the previous year. A remarkable development was in the China trade, the value of shipments thither increasing from ₹44·4 lakhs (£296,000) to ₹81·15 lakhs (£541,000) in connection with the soybean traffic; but the Straits Settlements figures show a further contraction. Other features of the distribution were increased direct consignments to the West Indies, Java, Cape Colony, and Natal, and decline in those to Indo-China and Siam.

In the exports of **cloth** the United States took 70 per cent, and consignments to the United Kingdom, which are largely for distribution, have recovered

somewhat after a year of slender demand. The value of purchases from the Argentine shows a further fall. In 1907-08 the total was R240·90 lakhs (£1,606,000) and in 1908-09 R225 lakhs (£1,500,000). The figures for 1909-10 were only R172·28 lakhs (£1,148,500). The Australasian requirements were further reduced to R23·41 lakhs (£156,000), while shipments to China direct rose from R3·74 lakhs (£25,000) to R6·39 lakhs (£42,600).

**Silk goods.**—The exports of **silk manufactures** showed a percentage increase of 11·5 and amounted to R8·17 lakhs (£54,500), which is still below the level of 1907-08. They consist chiefly of tissues woven in Bengal and Burma from indigenous silks. Elsewhere the trade is concentrated upon internal demand, and at certain centres, such as Madura and Benares, is benefiting from better organization and improved commercial methods.

**Woollens.**—The export trade in **woollen manufactures** represents nearly one per cent of the exports of Indian textiles. The value declined by a lakh (£6,666) to R24·06 lakhs (£160,400). **Carpets and rugs** form 88·5 per cent of the total exports and their value fell by 5 per cent to R21·34 lakhs (£142,300). The contraction was due to reduced supplies to the United States and the United Kingdom, accounting for a loss of about R66,500 (£4,433) each. The share of the United Kingdom, which is the principal purchaser of these goods, was R16·61 lakhs (£110,700) or 77·8 per cent, while that of the United States was R2·94 lakhs (£19,600) or 13·8 per cent.

It is satisfactory, on the other hand, to be able to record steady progress in the outturn of **Indian woollen mills** during the last four years, as the following table shows:—

| | Quantity | Value | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | ₹ | | £ |
| 1906 . . . . . | 2,827,300 | 34,81,800 | = | 232,100 |
| 1907 . . . . . | 2,944,700 | 34,12,900 | | 227,500 |
| 1908 . . . . . | 3,415,700 | 44,00,000 | | 293,300 |
| 1909 . . . . . | 3,954,700 | 43,25,800 | | 288,400 |

**Apparel.**—The total exports of **Apparel** showed a small decline of R24,237 (£1,616) or 1·4 per cent and amounted to R16·47 lakhs (£109,800). This head includes **Boots and shoes,** the trade in which has been steadily declining, the value amounting to R3·48 lakhs (£23,200) as against R4·56 lakhs (£30,400) in 1908-09. Re-exports of foreign boots and shoes, which were imported to the extent of R37·31 lakhs (£248,700), amounted to R35,237 (£2,349) only as compared with R34,000 (£2,267) in 1908-09.

**Coir.**—The exports of coir matting and other manufactures of **coir,** the trade in which is almost wholly confined to the Malabar Coast, continue their steady growth. The value amounted in 1909-10 to R72·86 lakhs (£485,700), showing an increase of R10·11 lakhs (£67,400) or 16·1 per cent over the 1908-09 figure. Of this Germany took R21·45 lakhs (£143,000), as against R15·3 lakhs (£102,000) in 1908-09, the United Kingdom R18·76 lakhs (£125,000), the United States R6·43 lakhs (£43,000), Holland R6·16 lakhs (£41,000) as against R3·94 lakhs (£26,300) in 1908-09, Belgium R6·01 lakhs (£40,000), and France R5·93 lakhs (£39,500).

**Hides and skins, tanned,** on the average of three years ending 1909-10 represented 32·4 per cent of the total value of all the hides and skins exported. The leather trade in 1909 continued fairly brisk, though prices by no means corresponded with the high rates prevailing for raw hides. As regards India the total exports of **tanned hides and skins** taken together fell

from R412·85 lakhs (£2,752,300) to R396·86 lakhs (£2,645,700). The exports of **tanned hides** increased by 8,157 cwts or 5 per cent in quantity and in value by R4·75 lakhs(£31,700) or 3·4 per cent, but the specific value fell by 1·3 per cent, the average value being R80·51 (£5-7-4*d*) per cwt as compared with R81·57 (£5-8-9*d*) in 1908-09. The exports of **tanned skins,** on the other hand, again receded, the decline being one of 12,292 cwts or 8·6 per cent in quantity and R20·74 lakhs (£138,300) in value, there being a slight rise in specific value of 1·1 per cent, and the average value per cwt advanced from R191·68 (£12-15-7*d*) to R193·85 (£12-18-4*d*). These classes of hides and skins comprise, however, so many different descriptions and qualities varying from year to year that fluctuations in average value cannot be regarded with as much reliance as would be justified in the case of a single article or a homogeneous and constant group.

The following is a statement of the total exports of the two classes in the last five years, *the unit being 1,000* :—

| | Tanned Hides | | | | Tanned Skins | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | No | R | £ | Cwts | No | R | £ |
| 1905-06 | 202 | 2,917 | 1,54,80 | 1,032 | 139 | 16,884 | 2,11,04 | 1,407 |
| 1906-07 | 220 | 3,278 | 1,72,96 | 1,153 | 150 | 18,097 | 2,72,16 | 1,814 |
| 1907-08 | 132 | 1,894 | 1,05,52 | 703 | 152 | 18,427 | 2,84,45 | 1,896 |
| 1908-09 | 171 | 2,481 | 1,39,63 | 931 | 143 | 17,859 | 2,73,23 | 1,822 |
| 1909-10 | 179 | 2,473 | 1,44,37 | 962 | 130 | 16,287 | 2,52,49 | 1,683 |

In **tanned hides** Madras continues to predominate, and her share of total weight exported was over 84 per cent. Bombay was responsible for practically the whole of the balance.

In **tanned skins** the share of these two provinces was 80·4 and 17·4 per cent respectively. Madras tannages command better prices than Bombay, but there is a growing tendency on the part of buyers in Europe to obtain untanned skins as far as possible, owing to the unevenness of Indian consignments generally.

The United Kingdom continues to take the greater part of both classes. Her share of the total hides declined from 97·2 to 95 per cent though the quantity increased from 166,414 cwts in 1908-09 to 170,345 cwts in 1909-10. In skins her percentage of the total fell to 77·9 per cent with 101,513 cwts against 112,992 cwts in the previous year. The United States took 15,659 cwts of skins as compared with 20,259 cwts in the previous year.

**Lac.**—This market is highly speculative, and violent fluctuations in price are by no means uncommon, though in 1909-10 prices remained at bottom levels practically throughout the year, as the following table of prices per cwt. in Calcutta for shellac ◈ shows :—

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R a. p. | £ s. d. | | R a. p. | £ s. d. | | R a. p. | £ s. d. | |
| Opening | 156 8 5 | 10 8 6 | = | 65 5 4 | 4 7 1 | = | 50 5 9 | 3 7 2 | = |
| Highest | 156 8 5 | 10 8 6 | | 100 11 7 | 6 14 4 | | 51 11 7 | 3 9 0 | |
| Lowest | 62 9 9 | 4 3 6 | | 47 10 3 | 3 3 6 | | 43 8 11 | 2 18 1 | |
| Closing | 62 9 9 | 4 3 6 | | 49 0 0 | 3 5 4 | | 45 9 7 | 3 0 10 | |
| Average | 107 4 10 | 7 3 1 | | 68 11 9 | 4 11 8 | | 46 3 6 | 3 1 7 | |

The average price was no less than 32·8 per cent lower than in 1908-09.

India has almost a monopoly of the supply of this article, which is required chiefly for the manufacture of high class varnishes and for insulating purposes in the electrical industry. The more scientific cultivation and harvesting of the crop has been engaging the attention of the Forest Department for several years, but unfortunately much of the lac comes from forests in Native States where no suitable agency for conservancy or expansion exists. It is also capable of

development as an agricultural product on "ber" or "babul," and some experiments in this direction have been made in Bihar. **Stick and seed lac** represent the raw material, of which **shellac and button lac** are the manufactured products, but the distinction between the two classes is somewhat unreal and the trade is not so distinct as to justify separate treatment. The figures of quantities and values exported during the last three years are as under:—

| | 1907-08 | | | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| Shellac | 278,338 | 3,32,38,167 | =2,215,878 | 322,953 | 2,46,51,307 | =1,643,420 | 461,056 | 2,46,42,640 | =1,642,843 |
| Button lac | 39,512 | 46,80,489 | 312,032 | 31,415 | 23,33,005 | 155,534 | 49,455 | 25,40,259 | 169,350 |
| Total | 317,850 | 3,79,18,656 | 2,527,910 | 354,368 | 2,69,84,312 | 1,798,954 | 510,511 | 2,71,82,899 | 1,812,193 |
| Stick and seed lac | 22,740 | 20,59,704 | 137,314 | 8,630 | 5,88,612 | 39,241 | 7,470 | 2,38,319 | 15,888 |

It may be assumed that a given quantity of stick and seed lac yields in the factory half that quantity of shellac and button lac. The crop which came into sight commercially in 1909 was considerably larger than in 1908, and the statement above shows that the export business was larger in volume but with a lower range of prices than that of the previous year. The conclusions deduced from the declared values in the case of exports not subject to duty are somewhat unsafe, and it would appear that the declines in specific value which are based on the totals above given are rather over than under the mark. Taken together the two classes of manufactured lac increased in quantity by 44·1 per cent but in value by only ·7 per cent. The proportion of shellac and button lac is on the average respectively 81·8 and 9·3 per cent of the general total. The volume of stick and seed lac taken together fell by 13·5 per cent and the value by 59·4 per cent, equivalent to a loss in specific value of 53·2 per cent.

The principal customers for shellac and button lac are the United States with a total of ₹122·98 lakhs (£820,000) or 45·2 per cent, the United Kingdom ₹67·76 lakhs (£451,700) or 24·9 per cent, and Germany ₹46·08 lakhs (£307,000) or 17 per cent.

## TRADE ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

Appended is a table showing the value *in lakhs of rupees and thousands of pounds sterling* of the trade in merchandise only (excluding Government transactions) of British India with (1) the United Kingdom, (2) other British Possessions, and (3) Foreign countries separately, during each of the past two years, and the centesimal percentages:

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | Per cent | ₹ | £ | Per cent |
| *Imports from* | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 75,91·91= | 50,613 | 62·6 | 73,19·9= | 48,800 | 62·5 |
| Other British Possessions | 10,14·03 | 6,760 | 8·4 | 9,42·3 | 6,282 | 8·1 |
| Foreign countries | 35,20·63 | 23,471 | 29 | 34,43·55 | 22,957 | 29·4 |
| Total | 121,26·57 | 80,844 | 100 | 117,05·75 | 78,039 | 100 |
| *Exports, including re-exports to* | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 36,82·1 | 24,547 | 24·1 | 49,41·64 | 32,944 | 26·3 |
| Other British Possessions | 29,32·33 | 19,549 | 19·1 | 31,62·3 | 21,082 | 16·9 |
| Foreign countries | 86,88·37 | 57,922 | 56·8 | 106,68·65 | 71,124 | 56·8 |
| Total | 153,02·8 | 102,018 | 100 | 187,72·59 | 125,150 | 100 |
| *Total imports and exports* | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 112,74·01 | 75,160 | 41·1 | 122,61·54 | 81,744 | 40·2 |
| Other British Possessions | 39,46·36 | 26,309 | 14·4 | 41,04·6 | 27,364 | 13·5 |
| Foreign countries | 122,09 | 81,393 | 44·5 | 141,12·20 | 94,081 | 46·3 |
| Total | 274,29·37 | 182,862 | 100 | 304,78·34 | 203,189 | 100 |

The total trade with the **United Kingdom** advanced from ₹112·74 crores (£75·16 millions) to 122·61 crores (£81·74 millions), the increase being one of ₹9·87 crores (£6·58 millions) or 8·7 per cent. The import values declined by ₹2·72 crores (£1,813,000) or 3·6 per cent, while the export values increased by ₹12·59 crores (£8·39 millions) or 34·1 per cent, the centesimal proportion rising from 24·1 to 26·3 per cent. Her aggregate share in the total trade fell from 41·1 to 40·2 per cent.

The trade with **British Possessions other than the United Kingdom** amounted to ₹41·05 crores (£27·36 millions) as compared with ₹39·46 crores (£26·31 millions) in 1908-09. This forms 13·5 per cent of the total trade, marking an advance of ₹158·24 lakhs (£1,055,000) or 4 per cent over the figure for the previous year. There was a decline of ₹71·7 lakhs (£478,000) or 7 per cent under imports but a rise of ₹229·97 lakhs (£1,533,100) or 7·8 per cent under exports. The centesimal variations are respectively 8·1 and 16·9 per cent, as against 8·4 and 19·1 in 1908-09.

The trade with **all British Possessions** represented 53·7 per cent of the whole trade against 55·5 per cent in 1908-09, though the values rose by 7·5 per cent from ₹152·20 crores (£101·47 millions) to ₹163·66 crores (£109·1 millions).

The trade with **Foreign countries** amounted to ₹141·12 crores (£94·08 millions), representing an increase of ₹19·03 crores (£12·69 millions) or 15·6 per cent as compared with 1908-09. This represents 46·3 per cent of the total trade, in place of 44·5 per cent in the previous year. Imports declined by ₹77·07 lakhs (£513,800) or 2·1 per cent, but exports rose by ₹19·80 crores (£13·21 millions) or 22·8 per cent, the respective proportions being about the same as in the previous year, namely, 29 and 57 per cent.

The following statement shows India's trade, import and export separately, with each principal country other than the United Kingdom, for which figures have been given above, during the past year, in *lakhs of rupees and thousands of pounds sterling*:

| | Import | | | Export | | | Total | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | Per cent | ₹ | £ | Per cent | ₹ | £ | Per cent |
| Germany | 4,16·47 = | 2,776 | 3·6 | 17,93·82 = | 11,959 | 9·5 | 22,10·29 = | 14,735 | 7·2 |
| China | 2,25·60 | 1,504 | 1·9 | 18,59·96 | 12,400 | 9·9 | 20,85·56 | 13,904 | 6·8 |
| United States | 3,67·53 | 2,450 | 3·1 | 14,32·11 | 9,548 | 7·6 | 17,99·63 | 11,998 | 5·9 |
| Japan | 2,48·52 | 1,657 | 2·1 | 12,54·73 | 8,365 | 6·7 | 15,03·25 | 10,022 | 4·9 |
| Belgium | 4,53·97 | 3,027 | 3·9 | 10,19·56 | 6,797 | 5·4 | 14,73·53 | 9,824 | 4·8 |
| France | 1,76·42 | 1,176 | 1·5 | 12,02·24 | 8,015 | 6·5 | 13,78·66 | 9,191 | 4·5 |
| Java | 7,91·88 | 5,279 | 6·8 | 1,43·25 | 955 | ·8 | 9,35·13 | 6,234 | 3·1 |
| Austria-Hungary | 2,72·59 | 1,817 | 2·3 | 6,49·89 | 4,338 | 3·5 | 9,22·48 | 6,150 | 3 |
| Straits Settlements | 2,96·00 | 1,973 | 2·5 | 6,15·51 | 4,103 | 3·3 | 9,11·51 | 6,077 | 3 |
| Ceylon | 67·63 | 451 | ·6 | 7,07·37 | 4,716 | 3·8 | 7,75·00 | 5,167 | 2·5 |
| Italy | 1,12·80 | 752 | 1 | 6,04·45 | 4,030 | 3·2 | 7,17·25 | 4,782 | 2·3 |
| Australia | 95·87 | 639 | ·8 | 2,72·16 | 1,815 | 1·5 | 3,68·03 | 2,454 | 1·2 |
| Mauritius | 2,49·43 | 1,663 | 2·1 | 1,09·30 | 729 | ·5 | 3,58·73 | 2,392 | 1·2 |
| Holland | 97·78 | 652 | ·8 | 2,38·09 | 1,587 | 1·3 | 3,35·87 | 2,239 | 1·1 |
| South America | ·03 | ... | ... | 2,88·83 | 1,925 | 1·5 | 2,88·86 | 1,926 | ·9 |
| Asiatic-Turkey | 56·03 | 374 | ·5 | 2,19·96 | 1,466 | 1·2 | 2,76·04 | 1,840 | ·9 |
| Egypt | 25·41 | 170 | ·2 | 1,83·92 | 1,226 | 1 | 2,09·33 | 1,396 | ·7 |
| Persia | 52·78 | 352 | ·5 | 1,10·86 | 739 | ·6 | 1,63·64 | 1,091 | ·5 |
| Spain | 17·42 | 116 | ·1 | 1,34·32 | 896 | ·7 | 1,51·74 | 1,012 | ·5 |
| Aden | 31·50 | 210 | ·3 | 1,00·19 | 668 | ·5 | 1,31·69 | 878 | ·4 |
| Arabia | 50·55 | 337 | ·4 | 75·32 | 502 | ·4 | 1,25·87 | 839 | ·4 |
| Russia | 14·86 | 99 | ·1 | 87·59 | 584 | ·5 | 1,02·45 | 683 | ·3 |

The above figures have been arrived at by the old method of compilation which assigns imports to the country of shipment and exports to the country of discharge declared in the shipping bills, but statistics under the new method in which the country of origin and country of final destination govern the distribution of imports and exports respectively are now available for

the years 1907-08 and 1908-09. Judging from them the accuracy of the old method is only affected to a very small degree. Subject to the reservation that the imports from Belgium include a considerable volume of trade with Germany which is shipped from Antwerp, and that the distinction between exports to Hongkong and to China may perhaps not have been always correctly observed, the tables above may be regarded as giving a fairly accurate picture of the distribution of India's foreign trade.

The outstanding feature of the **import** trade for 1909-10 is the advance of Java, whose increased consignments of sugar have raised her percentage of the total from 5·1 to 6·8 per cent, and advanced her place in the list in the space of the last 4 years from fifth to second. The shares of the United States and Japan have increased from 2·7 and 1·7 to 3·1 and 2·1 per cent respectively. Among Continental countries the combined share of Germany and Belgium shows a fractional decline, and that of Austria-Hungary has fallen from 3·2 to 2·3 per cent. Russia, which stood tenth five years ago with 1·7 per cent, is now represented by ·1 per cent owing to the contraction in her petroleum trade.

Under **exports,** Japan has gained ₹5·35 crores (£3·57 millions) with larger shipments of raw cotton, while China lost ₹47 lakhs (£313,000). Their respective shares amounted to ₹12·54 crores (£8·36 millions) and ₹18·6 crores (£12·4 millions) in 1909-10 as compared with ₹7·19 crores (£4·8 millions) and ₹18·13 crores (£12·09 millions) in 1908-09. Though increased shipments of jute manufactures and raw hides and skins to the United States of America raised the volume of trade from ₹13·23 crores (£8·82 millions) to ₹14·32 crores (£9·55 millions), her share of the total declined by nearly 1 per cent to 7·6 per cent. The exports to Belgium and Germany taken together advanced from 14 to 15 per cent with ₹28·13 crores (£18·75 millions) as against ₹21·57 crores (£14·38 millions) in 1908-09.

Taking both imports and exports together, Germany has assumed the first place with 7·2 per cent of the total trade, and the new system of registration will further confirm her predominance. Egypt, owing to the elimination of shipments 'for orders' from the statistics, has dropped below Australia, Mauritius, Holland, South America, and Turkey.

## TRADE ACCORDING TO PROVINCES AND PORTS

The import and export trade in merchandise only of each maritime province with foreign countries during the past year is stated below *in lakhs of rupees and millions of pounds sterling,* together with the proportionate share (per cent) of each province in the total trade :—

| | Imports | | | Exports (including re-exports) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ (Lakhs) | £ (millions) | Increase (+) decrease (−) on 1908-09 | ₹ (Lakhs) | £ (millions) | Increase (+) decrease (−) on 1908-09 | Total trade per cent |
| Bengal | 46,62·16 | = 31·08 | +5·4 | 70,31·95 | = 46·88 | +5·9 | 38·4 |
| Bombay | 39,54·30 | 26·36 | −2·2 | 55,55·30 | 37·03 | +31·9 | 31·2 |
| Sind | 9,97·00 | 6·65 | −12·1 | 21,92·85 | 14·62 | +154·8 | 10·5 |
| Madras | 9,46·41 | 6·31 | −18·0 | 19,51·50 | 13·01 | +6·9 | 9·5 |
| Burma | 10,87·92 | 7·25 | −17·1 | 16,06·54 | 10·71 | +24·3 | 8·8 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam | 57·96 | 0·39 | −3·9 | 4,34·44 | 2·90 | −8·2 | 1·6 |
| Total | 117,05·75 | 78·04 | −3·5 | 187,72·58 | 125·15 | +22·7 | 100 |

India possesses a very long seaboard, but very few natural harbours, and hence the otherwise astonishing fact that over 90 per cent of her foreign trade passes through five ports, two of which are actually situated at some distance from the sea.

The distribution of trade portwise during the last two years is given below *in lakhs of rupees and thousands of pounds sterling :*

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | per cent | ₹ | £ | per cent |
| Calcutta . | 1,10,47·99 = | 73,653 | 40·3 | 1,16,50·85 = | 77,672 | 38·2 |
| Bombay . | 82,50·51 | 55,003 | 30·1 | 95,07·42 | 63,383 | 31·2 |
| Karachi . | 19,92·20 | 13,281 | 7·3 | 31,89·85 | 21,266 | 10·5 |
| Rangoon . | 22,23·57 | 14,824 | 8·1 | 22,71·82 | 15,146 | 7·4 |
| Madras . | 15,30·33 | 10,202 | 5·6 | 13,74·16 | 9,163 | 4·5 |
| Other Madras ports | 14,50·17 | 9,668 | 5·3 | 15,23·45 | 10,156 | 5 |
| Chittagong . | 5,33·39 | 3,556 | 1·9 | 4,90·10 | 3,267 | 1·6 |
| Total . | 2,70,28·16 | 180,187 | 98·6 | 3,00,07·95 | 200,053 | 98·4 |

## CUSTOMS REVENUE

The **Tariff Schedule** fixing the values of tariff-rated articles for the assessment to import duty was as usual revised in December 1909 and the new schedule came into force on the 1st January 1910.

The **valuations of Indian cotton goods** for excise purposes were also revised at the same time.

The leading event in the Customs Administration of the year was the passing of **the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, VIII of 1910**, for the purpose of enhancing the general revenues. Under this Act, which came into force on the 25th February 1910, the duty on all sorts of liquors and on petroleum was raised, unmanufactured tobacco was made dutiable, special rates were imposed on silver and on both manufactured and unmanufactured tobacco, and alkaloids of opium were made subject to the same duty as opium.

No important changes in Customs procedure were made during the year, but orders were passed regarding (*a*) the remission of countervailing duty on raw sugar produced in or exported from Chile to British India, and (*b*) free admission into British India of samples and patterns brought by commercial travellers from the United Kingdom.

The **gross revenue from imports, excluding salt,** fell from ₹5·98 crores (£3·98 millions) to ₹5·9 crores (£3·93 millions), the loss being one of ₹8·5 lakhs (£56,700) or 1·4 per cent.

**Refunds and drawbacks** amounted to ₹9·28 lakhs (£61,800) as against ₹10·48 lakhs (£69,800) in 1908-09, representing a reduction of 11·4 per cent.

The **net revenue** therefore receded from ₹5·87 crores (£3·92 millions) to ₹5·8 crores (£3·87 millions), showing a decrease of ₹7·3 lakhs (£48,000) equivalent to 1·2 per cent.

Appended are the figures of **revenue derived from the principal dutiable articles** under each class in the last three years:

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Arms Ammunition* . . | 5,55,085 = | 37,006 | 5,21,749 = | 34,783 | 4,82,063 = | 32,138 |
| *Articles of food and drink—* | | | | | | |
| Fruits and vegetables . | 5,33,470 | 35,565 | 5,42,788 | 36,186 | 5,14,317 | 34,288 |
| Ale, beer, etc. . . | 3,84,917 | 25,661 | 5,27,528 | 35,168 | 5,45,509 | 36,367 |
| Spirits . . . | 92,65,853 | 617,724 | 95,26,881 | 635,125 | 95,57,087 | 637,139 |
| Wines . . . | 3,99,539 | 26,636 | 3,96,698 | 26,447 | 4,12,197 | 27,480 |
| Sugar . . . | 44,76,082 | 298,405 | 51,56,846 | 343,790 | 56,77,251 | 378,483 |
| Provisions . . . | 8,58,109 | 57,207 | 9,57,766 | 63,851 | 9,45,206 | 63,014 |
| Spices . . . | 8,00,313 | 53,354 | 7,97,783 | 53,186 | 6,75,229 | 45,015 |

| | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, and dyes—* | | | | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, and narcotics | 8,05,162 | = 53,677 | 7,06,515 | = 47,101 | 9,47,022 | = 63,135 |
| Chemicals | 4,69,420 | 31,295 | 4,41,225 | 29,415 | 4,50,887 | 30,059 |
| Dyes and tans | 5,70,253 | 38,017 | 5,43,032 | 36,202 | 5,76,938 | 38,462 |
| *Metals and articles made of metals—* | | | | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 17,93,308 | 119,554 | 16,40,351 | 109,357 | 15,59,109 | 103,941 |
| Copper and brass | 11,18,312 | 74,554 | 14,95,926 | 99,728 | 14,43,068 | 96,204 |
| Iron and steel | 10,46,999 | 69,800 | 10,32,494 | 68,833 | 10,16,961 | 67,797 |
| Silver | 51,70,203 | 344,680 | 63,61,131 | 424,275 | 53,46,980 | 356,465 |
| *Oils—* | | | | | | |
| Petroleum | 44,63,468 | 297,565 | 53,25,734 | 355,049 | 46,87,884 | 312,525 |
| *Manufactures of cotton—* | | | | | | |
| Piecegoods :— | | | | | | |
| Grey (unbleached) | 66,97,608 | 446,507 | 52,20,078 | 348,005 | 60,02,440 | 400,163 |
| White (bleached) | 40,77,896 | 271,860 | 27,12,401 | 180,827 | 26,73,950 | 178,263 |
| Coloured | 38,04,353 | 253,624 | 33,13,966 | 220,931 | 30,93,416 | 206,228 |
| Hosiery and all other manufactured cotton goods | 6,09,082 | 40,605 | 5,65,921 | 37,728 | 6,15,736 | 41,049 |
| *Other articles, unmanufactured and manufactured—* | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 11,16,164 | 74,411 | 10,49,334 | 69,956 | 10,19,731 | 67,982 |
| Carriages (including motor cars and cycles) | 5,97,188 | 39,812 | 4,64,279 | 30,952 | 4,23,507 | 28,234 |
| Instruments, apparatus, and appliances | 6,32,034 | 42,136 | 6,00,469 | 40,031 | 5,49,426 | 36,602 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 5,60,147 | 37,343 | 5,30,883 | 35,392 | 5,75,312 | 38,354 |
| Silk and articles made of silk | 15,53,361 | 103,557 | 16,88,623 | 112,575 | 16,57,722 | 110,515 |
| Woollen goods | 13,89,239 | 92,616 | 14,69,588 | 97,972 | 10,32,671 | 68,845 |

The **gross revenue** derived from the above mentioned **twenty-six articles** during 1909-10 was ₹5·1 crores (£3·4 millions) or 86·4 per cent of the total.

The **countervailing excise duty** of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent **on cotton fabrics manufactured in Indian mills** yielded ₹40·05 lakhs (£267,000) as compared with ₹35·44 lakhs (£236,000) in the previous year.

The **duty on salt** yielded ₹141 lakhs (£944,500) as compared with ₹137 lakhs (£911,000) in 1908-09.

The **export tariff schedule** is as usual confined to rice, husked or unhusked, including rice flour, but not including rice bran and rice dust. The duty levied thereunder is at the rate of 3 annas per maund. The **net revenue** from this source was ₹102·01 lakhs (£680,000) as compared with ₹80·4 lakhs (£536,000) in the previous year, an advance of ₹21·61 lakhs (£144,000) or 26·9 per cent.

## GOLD AND SILVER

The movement of gold during the year is one of the most interesting features of the trade returns.

The following table shows the value *in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling* of the imports, exports, and absorption of gold in the last five years:

| | Imports | | Exports | | | | Absorption | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Production | | Re-exports | | | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1905-06 | 14,74,90 = | 9,833 | 3,58,76 = | 2,392 | 10,70,34 = | 7,135 | 4,04,56 = | 2,698 |
| 1906-07 | 18,53,34 | 12,356 | 3,23,37 | 2,156 | 44,36 | 295 | 18,08,98 | 12,061 |
| 1907-08 | 20,75,26 | 13,835 | 3,14,69 | 2,098 | 23,80 | 158 | 20,51,46 | 13,677 |
| 1908-09 | 8,40,42 | 5,603 | 3,17,66 | 2,118 | 87,22 | 581 | 7,53,20 | 5,022 |
| 1909-10 | 25,03,10 | 16,687 | 3,25,09 | 2,167 | 10,06 | 67 | 24,93,04 | 16,620 |

As explained in previous reviews, India's absorption of gold has been arrived at by deducting the re-exports from the imports, for all the gold produced in Indian mines is immediately shipped to England for assay, and does not swell the stocks of metal or enter into commercial consideration in this country.

The financial crisis in America in 1907 was essentially due to a failure of credit and it was followed by a drain of gold from Europe which is reflected in the statistics of British India from 1908-09, when the imports of gold which had averaged over 19·2 crores (£12,800,000) in the previous quinquennium dropped to 8·4 crores (£5,600,000). In 1909-10 the imports into Bombay alone only just fell short of 20 crores (£13·33 millions) and the total imports into British India exceeded 25 crores (£16·66 millions), the highest total ever recorded. The movement appears to have been automatic and non-speculative for the absorption, as the table below shews, took place chiefly in the last four months of the year, when the offerings of Council Bills and Telegraphic Transfers proved altogether insufficient to finance the heavy rush of exports, and the Exchange Banks were obliged to import large quantities of sovereigns, from England and Egypt in particular, to meet the current demands of trade.

| | ₹ | | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| April to July 1909 . . . . | 3,26,28,940 | = | 2,175,263 |
| August to November 1909 . . . | 3,98,38,823 | | 2,655,921 |
| December 1909 to March 1910 . . | 17,68,36,331 | | 11,789,089 |
| TOTAL .. | 24,93,04,094 | | 16,620,273 |

The figures of production remain practically steady, but the re-exports, which totalled over 10 crores (£7·1 millions) in 1905-06, fell from ₹87·22 lakhs (£581,000) in 1908-09 to ₹10·06 lakhs (£67,000) in 1909-10. The absorption of gold amounts to ₹24·93 crores (£16·6 millions) as compared with an average of ₹12·69 crores (£8·46 millions) for the preceding quinquennial period, and ₹7·5 crores (£5·02 millions) in the previous year.

The **descriptions of gold** imported and exported during the year were as follows, *the unit being 1,000* :

| | Imports | | | Exports | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Oz. | ₹ | £ | Oz. | ₹ | £ |
| Bullion (bar, ingots and other uncoined gold) . | 1,706 | 10,92,80= | 7,285 | 579 | 3,28,83= | 2,192 |
| Sovereigns and other British coin . . | 2,347 | 13,86,14 | 9,241 | 7* | 4,19 | 28 |
| Other coined gold . . | 42 | 24,16 | 161 | 4* | 2,13 | 14 |
| TOTAL . | 4,095 | 25,03,10 | 16,687 | 590* | 3,35,15 | 2,234 |

On Government account the imports of gold amounted to ₹1,35,000 (£9,000), and the exports to ₹30,000 (£2,000) only, as against ₹15 (£1) and ₹36 lakhs (£240,000) respectively in 1908-09.

The **production of gold** in each of the last five years is noted below in *ounces* :

| | |
|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . . | 625,037 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 562,622 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 548,091 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 551,598 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 566,015 |

* Figures defective, the weight of certain postal parcels not being declared by the Post Office

The **value of the imports, exports and net imports of silver** during the last five years was *in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling* as under:

| | Imports | | Exports | | Net Imports | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1905-06 | 16,90,20 | =11,268 | 1,17,90 | = 786 | 15,72,30 | =10,482 |
| 1906-07 | 26,04,64 | 17,364 | 2,04,09 | 1,361 | 24,00,55 | 16,003 |
| 1907-08 | 21,53,19 | 14,355 | 2,06,36 | 1,376 | 19,46,83 | 12,979 |
| 1908-09 | 14,33,99 | 9,560 | 2,27,15 | 1,514 | 12,06,84 | 8,046 |
| 1909-10 | 12,49,24 | 8,328 | 3,04,75 | 2,032 | 9,44,49 | 6,296 |

As India is not a silver-producing country, the figures of net imports represent the amount absorbed in India. The imports were further restricted to ₹12·49 crores (£8·33 millions) as compared with an average of ₹19·3 crores (£12·87 millions for the preceding quinquennial period, ₹14·34 crores (£9·56 millions) in 1908-09, and ₹21·53 crores (£14·35 millions) in 1907-08. The exports were higher by ₹77·6 lakhs (£517,300) and ₹98·39 lakhs (£655,900) than in 1908-09 and 1907-08 respectively, and the principal destinations were:—

| | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|
| China | 88,28,000 | =588,500 |
| Ceylon | 76,05,000 | 507,000 |
| Bahrein Islands | 43,62,000 | 290,800 |
| Arabia | 29,63,000 | 197,500 |

The **descriptions of silver** imported and exported during the year were (0 00's omitted)—

| | Imports | | | Exports | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | oz. | ₹ | £ | oz. | ₹ | £ |
| Bullion (chiefly bar) | 72,076 | 11,66,31 | =7,775 | 691* | 12,72 | = 85 |
| Government of India rupees | 1,666 | 44,45 | 296 | 6,894* | 1,83,86 | 1,226 |
| Other coins (mostly British dollars) | 1,760 | 38,48 | 257 | 6,902* | 1,08,17 | 721 |
| TOTAL | 75,502 | 12,49,24 | 8,328 | 14,487* | 3,04,75 | 2,032 |

Government of India rupees are sent for circulation in the Bahrein Islands, Ceylon, Arabia, Mauritius, and the East African Coast.

The **net imports of silver** amounted to ₹9·44 crores (£6·29 millions) which is about three-fourths and a half of the net imports in 1908-09 and 1907-08 respectively.

In the following table the value of the **silver coinage** struck in the Indian Mints during the last five years is converted into ounces at the rate of 8 tolas =3 oz., and set against the **net imports** of silver, and the total values of all receipts at the Mints of **old rupees** and native **coins for re-coinage.**

| | Coinage | | Net imports | Old Rupees, etc., for re-coinage |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | Ounces | Ounces | £ |
| 1905-06 | 13,334,297 | 75,005,419 | 84,318,000 | 2,126,104 |
| 1906-07 | 17,390,494 | 97,821,527 | 118,199,000 | 1,816,712 |
| 1907-08 | 12,077,103 | 67,933,702 | 97,915,000 | 1,616,291 |
| 1908-09 | 1,902,394 | 10,700,968 | 73,740,000 | 1,742,455 |
| 1909-10 | 1,450,411 | 8,158,562 | 61,015,000 | 1,507,368 |

The average **price of silver** in London in 1909 was $23\frac{11}{16}d$ per ounce, the lowest figure ever reached in the money market—against $24\frac{13}{32}d$ in 1908 and $30\frac{3}{16}d$ in 1907. The rates fluctuated between $24\frac{13}{16}d$ and $23\frac{1}{16}d$, the former

* Figures defective

ruling on the 5th May and the latter on three dates, namely 4th March, 26th and 30th October—a range of $1\frac{3}{4}d$ only against $4\frac{3}{4}d$ in 1908 and $8\frac{3}{16}d$ in 1907. On the 25th February 1910 when the new Indian duty of 4 annas an ounce became operative the price sagged from $24d$ to $23\frac{3}{8}d$, and to $23\frac{3}{16}d$ on the 1st March, but by the 22nd March the quotation was again $24d$, and on the 31st March was $\frac{3}{16}d$ higher.

## BALANCE OF TRADE

The subjoined figures show the **excess of exports over imports,** including both merchandise and treasure, by sea in each of the last five years—*the unit being 1,000*—

| | Including Government transactions | | Excluding Government transactions | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ |
| 1905-06 . . | 33,54,08 = | 22,360 | 44,16,24 = | 29,441 |
| 1906-07 . . | 20,92,59 | 13,951 | 47,12,62 | 31,417 |
| 1907-08 . . | 4,11,13 | 2,741 | 20,08,87 | 13,392 |
| 1908-09 . . | 7,94,11 | 5,294 | 15,08,71 | 10,058 |
| 1909-10 . . | 34,03,61 | 22,691 | 39,63,56 | 26,424 |

In the same period the **drawings of Council bills** by the Secretary of State, including those on account of the Gold Standard Reserve, but deducting sterling bills sold in India, have been as follows :

| | £ | Rate of exchange *d.* | R |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . . | 31,567,000 | 16·043 | 47,22,43,000 |
| 1906-07 . . . | 33,432,000 | 16·084 | 49,88,75,000 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 15,237,000 | 16·03 | 22,81,34,000 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 5,927,000 | 15·964 | 8,91,11,000 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 26,941,000 | 16·042 | 40,30,58,000 |

Though the inclusion of the imports of treasure somewhat obscures the effect, the figures in these two tables illustrate graphically enough the restoration of the balance of trade in India's favour during the last twelve months, and are an indication of her return to comparative prosperity after two lean years.

In the five years ending 1909-10 the average excess of exports over imports, *including Government transactions*, was R20·11 crores (£13·41 millions), which represents 11·2 per cent of the average value of exports. In the same period the average drawings of the Secretary of State, as above defined, were R33·83 crores (£22·62 millions) being 18·8 per cent of the average value of exports. This sum exceeds the average excess of exports over imports by R13·72 crores (£9·14 millions).

*Excluding Government transactions*, the average excess of exports over imports was R33·22 crores (£22·15 millions), which is equal to 18·7 per cent of the average value of exports. This excess is greater by R13·11 crores (£8·74 millions) than the excess found when Government transactions are included but less by R61 lakhs (£400,000) than the average amount of the Secretary of State's drawings as stated above.

As explained in previous reviews, the trade figures given above relate only to the registered trade of British Indian ports. They are incomplete inasmuch as they exclude (1) the value of Government securities transferred between India and England, (2) the indeterminable volume of private remittances to and from India, (3) the not inconsiderable value of precious

stones and pearls re-exported by parcel post, and (4) the trade partly unregistered carried on chiefly by native craft from ports in Native States on the West Coast of India with the Persian Gulf, Arabia and Ceylon. To this last item the trade of the French and Portuguese Settlements should also be added. The figures pertaining to these States and possessions as far as available are given below (000's omitted):

| | 1906-07 | | | | 1907-08 | | | | 1908-09 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Import | | Export | | Import | | Export | | Import | | Export | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| French Settlements | 14,20 | = 95 | 121,18 | = 808 | 16,81 | = 112 | 105,02 | = 700 | 15,49 | = 103 | 119,09 | = 794 |
| Portuguese „ | 2,27 | 15 | 9,14 | 61 | 2,50 | 17 | 4,27 | 28 | 9,63 | 64 | 8,33 | 56 |
| Travancore | 27,53 | 183 | 12,96 | 84 | 24. | 2 | 12,87 | 86 | 8,49 | 56 | 8,93 | 59 |
| Kathiawar | 9,33 | 62 | 4,76 | 32 | 8,97 | 60 | 7,27 | 48 | 13,93 | 93 | 5,14 | 34 |

## BANK RATES AND EXCHANGE

It has been remarked as a feature of Indian banking during the past year that lower rates of interest generally prevailed than in 1908-09. The bank rate in the three Presidency towns was 7 per cent at the beginning of April, but the money market soon became easier and the rate fell steadily until July when 3 per cent was reached both in Calcutta and Bombay. The Bank of Bengal rate was raised on the 30th September to 4 per cent, to 5 per cent on the 11th November, and to 6 per cent on the 9th December. The Bombay rate of 3 per cent continued from the 15th July to 3rd November but had reached 6 per cent by the 25th November. The Madras rate was generally about one per cent higher than the Bengal and Bombay rates.

When the year 1908-09 closed, trade conditions were rapidly returning to equilibrium, though exchange was firm at 1*s* $3\frac{29}{32}d$ only. Before the end of April the rate had returned to parity for the first time for sixteen months, but in May it stood a point lower, and when in August the balance of trade set temporarily against India, it fell below gold export point. The Comptroller General thereupon offered to sell sterling bills on London at 1*s* $3\frac{29}{32}d$ which almost immediately arrested the slump and by the 23rd September exchange was again at 1*s* 4*d*. From October onwards there was no further fall and Council bills were sold at prices ranging from par to $\frac{1}{8}d$ above. The lowest rate touched was 1*s* $3\frac{7}{8}d$ on the 31st August and the highest rate 1*s* $4\frac{1}{8}d$ on the 17th November 1909.

The fluctuations of the money market may be understood from the discount rates month by month of the Presidency banks, and from the rates of exchange on demand bills shown below: —

| | Bank of | | | Rates of Exchange. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal | Bombay | Madras | Highest | | Lowest | |
| 1909— | Per cent | Per cent | Per cent | *s* | *d* | *s* | *d* |
| April | 7-6 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| May | 6-5 | 7-6 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ |
| June | 5-4 | 6-5-4 | 7-6-5 | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ |
| July | 3 | 4-3 | 5-4 | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| August | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{7}{8}$ |
| September | 3-4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | $3\frac{7}{8}$ |
| October | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ | 1 | 4 |
| November | 4-5 | 3-4-5-6 | 4-5 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 | 4 |
| December | 5-6 | 6 | 5-6 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{8}$ |
| 1910— | | | | | | | |
| January | 6 | 6 | 7 | 1 | $4\frac{7}{64}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{32}$ |
| February | 6 | 6 | 7 | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{32}$ |
| March | 6-7 | 6-7 | 7-8 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ |

## SHIPPING

In 1908-09 a reduction in the tonnage of shipping which entered and cleared at Indian ports was a striking commentary upon the diminished volume of exports and general trade stagnation prevailing. In 1909-10, however, the revival of trade is reflected in an increase of 7·7 per cent, and as the figures represent the maximum carrying capacity of the vessels and not the actual weights of cargoes, they tend in a year of prosperity to approximate more nearly to the actual volume of trade than in a year of depression.

Below are given the number and tonnage of **steamers and sailing vessels** with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to foreign countries :

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 | 9,269 | 12,598,321 | 1,359 |
| 1906-07 | 9,329 | 13,775,436 | 1,477 |
| 1907-08 | 9,312 | 14,239,180 | 1,529 |
| 1908-09 | 8,001 | 12,910,823 | 1,614 |
| 1909-10 | 8,042 | 14,597,091 | 1,815 |

Of these totals **steam tonnage** represents 98·6 per cent. The total number of steamers that entered and cleared was 5,790 with an aggregate burden of 14,391,408 tons as against 5,272 and 12,680,836 tons in the previous year. The average tonnage per steamer increased from 2,405 to 2,485 tons, the rate of increase being 3·3 per cent, and the average tonnage per sailing ship also increased from 84 to 91 tons.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at the chief ports from and to foreign countries in the past two years are shewn below :

| | 1908-09 | | | | | 1909-10 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Steam | | Sailing | | Percentage of total tonnage | Steam | | Sailing | | Percentage of total tonnage |
| | No. | Tons | No. | Tons | | No. | Tons | No. | Tons | |
| Bombay | 1,161 | 3,161,150 | 355 | 40,358 | 22·5 | 1,318 | 3,532,635 | 253 | 28,616 | 24·4 |
| Calcutta | 1,019 | 2,952,751 | 17 | 5,957 | 20·8 | 1,109 | 3,232,673 | 18 | 2,364 | 22·1 |
| Rangoon | 538 | 1,323,613 | 6 | 8,120 | 9·4 | 632 | 1,636,838 | 7 | 12,409 | 11·3 |
| Karachi | 462 | 878,841 | 555 | 38,702 | 6·4 | 738 | 1,595,348 | 302 | 26,649 | 11·1 |
| Madras | 277 | 814,443 | 11 | 1,082 | 5·7 | 248 | 739,216 | 10 | 907 | 5·1 |
| Chittagong | 44 | 117,278 | ... | ... | ·8 | 37 | 95,692 | 1 | 160 | ·7 |
| Total | 3,501 | 9,248,106 | 944 | 94,219 | 65·6 | 4,082 | 10,832,392 | 591 | 71,105 | 74·7 |

The tonnage under the **British flag,** registered under the English Merchant Shipping Act, was nearly 78 per cent, and including the Indian register, represented about 80 per cent of the whole.

The number of vessels under **foreign flags** which entered and left Indian ports was 1,086 with an aggregate burden of 2,787,871 tons as against 989 with an aggregate of 2,490,242 tons in 1908-09.

The number of vessels under the principal flags given below shews that

the employment of German and Austrian vessels in the Indian trade is increasing, while those of Norway and France have declined during the last five years.

| | 1905-06 | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| British . | 5,796 | 5,657 | 5,659 | 4,949 | 5,495 |
| German . | 387 | 371 | 375 | 437 | 455 |
| Austro-Hungarian . | 162 | 159 | 157 | 156 | 220 |
| Norwegian . | 174 | 195 | 188 | 106 | 95 |
| Italian . | 85 | 77 | 79 | 76 | 81 |
| Dutch . | 21 | 84 | 50 | 43 | 75 |
| Japanese . | 2 | 83 | 123 | 79 | 63 |
| French . | 105 | 67 | 61 | 55 | 56 |

## FREIGHTS

The appended freight quotations are for each staple article and Indian port of shipment and relate to the month in which the shipments are heaviest. Freights were dull in the early part of the year, but a considerable demand for forward freights in anticipation of good harvests began in October, and until the end of March the market displayed great activity, but after the year had closed once more entered the doldrums. It will be seen that the rates tabulated below are from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* higher than in 1908 except in the case of tea at Calcutta and cotton at Bombay where no variation took place.

| | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 | 1910 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* | £ *s.* *d.* |
| *Calcutta,* Rice—January . | 0 17 6 | 1 0 0 | 0 12 6 | 0 15 0 | 1 0 0 |
| Wheat—May . | 0 15 0 | 0 17 6 | 0 15 0 | 1 0 0 | 1 1 3 |
| Linseed—June . | 0 17 6 | 1 1 3 | 0 17 6 | 1 0 0 | 1 0 0 |
| Tea—August . | 1 11 3 | 1 16 3 | 1 12 6 | 1 12 6 | ... |
| Jute—October . | 0 17 6 | 1 6 3 | 0 17 6 | 1 2 6 | ... |
| *Bombay,* Cotton—January . | 0 14 6 | 0 16 0 | 0 11 6 | 0 11 0 | 0 16 6 |
| Wheat—May . | 0 12 0 | 0 15 0 | 0 10 0 | 0 12 0 | 0 14 6 |
| Seeds—December . | 0 14 6 | 0 12 0 | 0 12 0 | 0 15 0 | ... |
| *Karachi,* Wheat—May . | 0 14 3 | 0 14 6 | 0 9 0 | 0 14 0 | 0 14 6 |

## FRONTIER TRADE

The trade across the land frontiers of India is equivalent to less than five per cent of her seaborne trade. The statistics of this trade, which are supplemental to those given in the General Summary on page 3 of this Review, have become more complete and more reliable in recent years with improved methods of registration, but valuations continue difficult, and in the case of treasure defective and unreliable. Subject to these reservations, the total volume of trade has reached dimensions which justifies its analysis in some detail. The values of imports and exports of merchandise and treasure separately are shewn below in *thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling* :—

| | | Imports | | Exports | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1907-08 | Merchandise . | 7,39,57 = | 4,931 | 6,11,47 = | 4,076 | 13,51,04 = | 9,007 |
| | Treasure . . | 1,10,98 | 740 | 84,96 | 566 | 1,95,94 | 1,306 |
| 1908-09 | Merchandise . | 7,24,39 | 4,829 | 6,21,62 | 4,144 | 13,46,01 | 8,973 |
| | Treasure . . | 1,04,49 | 697 | 74,42 | 496 | 1,78,91 | 1,193 |
| 1909-10 | Merchandise . | 7,25,36 | 4,836 | 6,01,92 | 4,013 | 13,27,28 | 8,849 |
| | Treasure . . | 1,20,32 | 802 | 79,79 | 532 | 2,00,11 | 1,334 |

From the above it will be seen that, though the total trade exhibits a very small increase in the year under review, the trade in merchandise declined by ₹18·73 lakhs (£125,000) to ₹1,327·28 lakhs (£8,848,500).

The general character of the trade carried on across the Indian frontiers will be inferred from the appended list in which are entered the principal articles imported and exported and their values in the last year:

| | 1909-10 | | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | | ₹ | £ |
| *Imports* | | | *Exports* | | |
| Grain and pulse (chiefly rice) | 1,48,05,617 = | 987,041 | Cotton goods— | | |
| Cattle | 34,34,884 | 228,992 | Foreign | 2,02,45,020 = | 1,349,668 |
| Other animals | 40,93,524 | 272,902 | Indian | 44,33,870 | 295,591 |
| Wood and timber (chiefly teak) | 67,29,830 | 448,655 | Cotton yarn— | | |
| Wool | 51,63,237 | 344,216 | Foreign | 27,79,084 | 185,272 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rapeseed) | 48,51,001 | 323,400 | Indian | 28,10,835 | 187,389 |
| *Ghi* | 45,59,971 | 303,998 | Provisions | 32,84,746 | 218,983 |
| Metals (mostly lead) | 35,02,690 | 233,513 | Spices | 25,36,080 | 169,072 |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 42,32,645 | 282,176 | Metals (mainly brass, copper, and iron) | 24,90,846 | 166,056 |
| Hides and skins | 34,38,470 | 229,231 | Sugar | 22,44,699 | 149,647 |
| Pickled tea | 27,32,962 | 182,197 | Salt | 21,85,428 | 145,695 |
| Fibrous products (chiefly jute) | 24,42,227 | 162,815 | Grain and pulse | 20,28,362 | 135,224 |
| Drugs and medicines (including charas) | 13,11,930 | 87,462 | Oils | 18,81,286 | 125,419 |
| Spices | 12,98,512 | 86,567 | Animals (mostly cattle) | 13,67,545 | 91,170 |
| Silk | 9,13,708 | 60,914 | Leather | 12,08,749 | 80,583 |
| | | | Tobacco | 10,60,874 | 70,725 |
| | | | Silk goods | 8,82,171 | 58,811 |
| | | | Dyeing materials (chiefly indigo) | 7,55,871 | 50,391 |
| | | | Tea | 6,94,568 | 46,304 |
| | | | Cotton | 4,61,526 | 30,768 |

The registration of movement of gold and silver across the frontier is so notoriously unsatisfactory on account of the absence of trustworthy declarations that it will be convenient to notice only the figures which relate to merchandise, when considering the geographical distribution of the trade. This is indicated below, in respect of the principal countries proceeding from west to east along the line of frontier, the *unit being 1,000*:

| | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| N.-W. Frontier | Khelat | 15,51= | 103 | 15,18= | 101 | 11,60= | 77 |
| | Persia | 9,91 | 66 | 9,55 | 64 | 12,49 | 83 |
| | Afghanistan— | 2,15,73 | 1,438 | 2,00,21 | 1,335 | 2,08,17 | 1,387 |
| | *Southern and Western* | *1,17,11* | *781* | *1,14,43* | *763* | *1,21,21* | *808* |
| | *Northern and Eastern* | *98,62* | *657* | *85,78* | *572* | *86,96* | *579* |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur | 1,29,53 | 863 | 1,12,42 | 749 | 1,14,45 | 763 |
| | Kurram Valley | ... | ... | 12,60 | 84 | 12,68 | 84 |
| | Ladakh | 11,06 | 74 | 2,73 | 18 | 2,06 | 14 |
| N. and N.-E. Frontier | Tibet | 40,21 | 268 | 39,78 | 265 | 26,68 | 178 |
| | Nepal | 4,93,08 | 3,287 | 5,08,64 | 3,391 | 4,56,93 | 3,046 |
| | Sikkim and Bhutan | 22,17 | 148 | 22,69 | 151 | 22,06 | 147 |
| Eastern Frontier | Western China | 57,97 | 386 | 59,12 | 394 | 56,73 | 378 |
| | Shan States | 2,66,61 | 1,777 | 2,65,72 | 1,772 | 2,95,91 | 1,970 |
| | *North* | *1,45,65* | *971* | *1,53,99* | *1,027* | *1,72,80* | *1,150* |
| | *South* | *1,20,96* | *806* | *1,11,73* | *745* | *1,23,11* | *820* |
| | Siam | 48,25 | 321 | 48,68 | 324 | 51,53 | 344 |
| | *North* | *37,85* | *252* | *35,99* | *239* | *40,46* | *270* |
| | *South* | *10,40* | *69* | *12,69* | *85* | *11,07* | *74* |
| | Karennee | 20,79 | 139 | 18,31 | 122 | 21,20 | 162 |

NORTH-WESTERN FRONTIER

About 27 per cent of the whole frontier trade crossed this frontier last year.

**Khelat.**—The trade declined considerably, owing to diminished imports of **wool** from R5·17 lakhs (£34,500) to R2·2 lakhs (£14,700). The principal exports are **piecegoods** worth R3·65 lakhs (£24,300).

**Persia.**—The route to Persia from Quetta by way of Nushki and Seistan develops slowly and has not yet quite fulfilled expectations, though various concessions in respect of railway rebates, drawback of import duty, and transport, have been granted to stimulate trade. The total volume increased by R2·94 lakhs (£19,600), or 31 per cent, to R12·49 lakhs (£83,300). **Silk** and **raw wool** contributed R1·63 lakhs (£10,800) and R1·06 lakhs (£7,000), respectively, to the total imports of R4·9 lakhs (£32,700). Owing to the mines at Nishapur having been closed, there was a fall in the imports of turquoises. The largest items of export are **leather** (R2·31 lakhs=£15,400), **piecegoods** (R1·96 lakhs=£13,070), and **indigo** (R1·63 lakhs=£10,800), chiefly from Sukkur and Multan, which is preferred to the synthetic article in Khorasan.

**Afghanistan.**—The trade with Afghanistan passes through several routes, but the most important are the Khyber Pass in the Peshawar District, the Khajuri Kach route in the Wano Agency, and the Bolan Pass route. The trade has recently improved with the abolition of certain export duties by His Majesty the Amir. The concessional rebate of $\frac{2}{3}$rds the freight over the N.-W. Ry. has been extended to Afghan trade which passes through Nushki and does not break bulk at that station. The total trade increased by R7·96 lakhs (£53,000) to R208·17 lakhs (£1,387,800), of which imports represented 46 per cent. The trade with **Kandahar and Herat** amounted to R121·21 lakhs (£808,000). More than half the value of imports (R65·14 lakhs=£434,300) is accounted for by **wool** (R35·53 lakhs=£237,000), and **fruits and nuts** contributed R19·47 lakhs (£129,800), the trade in both these articles being larger by R3·79 lakhs (£25,300) and R5·67 lakhs (£37,800), respectively, than in 1908-09. Under exports the chief items are **cotton piecegoods** (mostly foreign) R33·53 lakhs (£223,500) against R39·2 lakhs (£261,300) in 1908-09, **drugs** R4·62 lakhs (£30,800), **grain and pulse** R2·09 lakhs (£13,900), and **sugar** R3·28 lakhs (£21,900). **Kabul and Ghazni** shared R86·96 lakhs (£579,700) of the total trade, of which 35·1 per cent represents imports. The imports of **fruits and nuts** decreased by R3·01 lakhs (£20,000) to R8·74 lakhs (£58,300), the decrease being attributed to the diversion of trade to the Bolan Pass and Quetta. The trade in **grain and pulse** (R98,944=£6,600), **opium** (R87,120=£5,808), and **drugs**, mostly asafœtida, (R2·54 lakhs=£17,000) was also contracted. Increases under imports are noticed under **ghi** (R4·49 lakhs=£29,900) in spite of the imposition of an embargo upon the export of this article, **live animals** (R2·71 lakhs=£18,000), **timber** (R2·53 lakhs=£17,000), due to larger demand and higher prices obtainable in British territory, **hides and skins** (R2·27 lakhs = £15,100), and **wool** (R1·18 lakhs=£7,900). **Cotton piecegoods,** mostly foreign (R29·82 lakhs=£198,800), **leather goods** (R5·19 lakhs =£34,600), **sugar** (R4·1 lakhs=£27,300), and **tea** (R2·98 lakhs=£19,900), figure largely under exports and increases under the last three items indicate increased prosperity in Afghanistan. The head "manufactured articles of merchandise unspecified" includes match boxes and soap.

The values of principal articles of trade for the last year are shown below :—

| *Imports* | ₹ | £ | *Exports* | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wool (mostly raw) | 37,12,447 | 247,496 | Piecegoods | 63,34,525 | 422,302 |
| Fruits and nuts | 28,20,714 | 188,048 | Sugar | 7,37,999 | 49,200 |
| Drugs | 7,25,838 | 48,389 | Leather | 6,81,616 | 45,441 |
| Provisions (mostly ghi) | 5,70,518 | 38,034 | Drugs | 5,58,043 | 37,203 |
| Animals | 3,86,081 | 25,739 | Tea | 4,57,706 | 30,514 |
| Hides and skins | 2,58,715 | 17,248 | Metals | 3,42,097 | 22,806 |
| Wood (timber) | 2,53,400 | 16,893 | Cotton yarn | 3,17,267 | 21,151 |
| Grain and pulse | 1,79,722 | 11,981 | Grain and pulse | 2,39,727 | 15,982 |
| Opium | 87,120 | 5,808 | Spices | 1,92,940 | 12,863 |
| | | | Dyes | 1,27,916 | 8,528 |

**Dir, Swat, and Bajaur.**—The total trade with these tracts amounted to ₹114·45 lakhs (£763,000). The imports advanced from ₹45·87 lakhs (£305,800) to ₹51·13 lakhs (£340,800), due to more settled conditions in the Mohmand country. The principal articles showing increases are **grain and pulse,** mostly rice (₹14·85 lakhs=£99,000), **ghi** (₹13·83 lakhs=£92,200), in spite of the continued prohibition against its export from Bajaur, **hides and skins** (₹6·63 lakhs=£44,200), and **timber** (₹5·9 lakhs=£39,300), due to the rivers being in full flood. There was a decline of ₹3·25 lakhs (£21,700) under exports. **Cotton yarn** (₹8·73 lakhs=£58,200), **piecegoods** (₹29·12 lakhs=£194,100), **spices** (₹4·73 lakhs=£31,500), **salt** (₹3·41 lakhs=£22,700), and **indigo** (₹2·23 lakhs =£14,900) account for 76·2 per cent of the total exports. The head "manufactured articles unspecified" includes sulphur and soap.

**Kurram.**—The trade with the Turis of the **Kurram Valley,** which was formerly included in that of Afghanistan, has been separately registered since May 1908, and in 1909-10 amounted to ₹12·68 lakhs (£84,500), to which exports contributed ₹9·72 lakhs (£64,800). The important items in the import trade are **food grains** (₹1·27 lakhs=£8,500), **fruits** (₹59,134=£3,942), **hides and skins** (₹54,360=£3,624), which account for 81 per cent of the total imports. In exports the trade is chiefly confined to **piecegoods** (₹6·95 lakhs=£46,300), **sugar** (₹81,849=£5,456), **leather** (₹47,450= £3,163), and **salt** (₹39·163=£2,610).

**Ladakh.**—For the trade with Ladakh and through Ladakh with Central Asia, the most important route passes through Sultanpur in Kulu and over the Baralacha and Lachalang passes to Leh. This trade so far as now registered in the Punjab is incomplete, inasmuch as it omits the volume passing through Kashmir and registered by the Darbar, the figures for which are yet awaited. *Charas* (₹53,480=£3,565) and **raw silk** (₹46,400=£3,093) are noticeable items under imports worth ₹1·33 lakhs (£8,870). **Borax** is also imported in large quantities, the supply being brought from the Puga mines in Ladakh by Khampa nomads of Eastern Tibet, now domiciled in British territory. The decrease in *Charas* is ascribed to the increasing popularity of the Kashmir route. Exports of a few unimportant items, *viz.*, cotton piecegoods, tea, spices, and coral, amounted to ₹72,986 (£4,866).

## NORTH AND NORTH-EASTERN FRONTIER

**Tibet.**—The trade with Tibet continues on a restricted scale, and its small dimensions are hardly likely to be augmented unless the political situation improves. Imports fell by ₹6·09 lakhs (£40,600) to ₹16·26 lakhs (£108,400) and exports by ₹7 lakhs (£46,700) to ₹10·42 lakhs (£69,500). The decline

is attributed to the present unsettled state of the country, the heavy duties believed to be levied by the Tibetan authorities on merchandise intended for the Punjab, and the various difficulties regarding communications. To facilitate trade a bonded warehouse has been established at Hoshiarpur, as in Srinagar, where traders with merchandise for Central Asia can break bulk and have their goods checked and passed for refund at Leh of the customs duty paid at the port of disembarkation. **Raw wool** accounts for a decline of R4·7 lakhs (£31,300), the trade being affected by a severe epidemic among animals and low prices in the previous year, **hides and skins** R1·5 lakhs (£10,000), and **musk** R55,133 (£3,676) under imports. One redeeming feature was an increased import of **Borax** with a value of R3·73 lakhs (£24,870) against R2·67 lakhs (£17,800) in 1908-09, due to higher prices in India, and of **salt** which the Bhutias have recourse to as a load when there is nothing more profitable available. The decreases under exports are **piecegoods** (R1·97 lakhs=£13,100), **coral** (R1·35 lakhs=£8,930), in **earthenware** (R99,340= £6,623), **grain and pulse** (R68,519 = £4,568), the decrease being due to the scarcity of food-grains in the hills, and **silk** (R49,219 = £3,281).

**Nepal.**—The trade with Nepal is larger by far than the trade carried on with any other trans-frontier state owing to its greater proximity to the railway termini, but its share fell in the year under review from 37 to 34 per cent. Both imports and exports declined, the former by R39·69 lakhs (£264,600) to R301·79 lakhs (£2,011,930) and the latter by R12·01 lakhs (£80,070) to R155·15 lakhs (£1,034,300). Imports from Nepal consist largely of agricultural produce and are influenced chiefly by the seasons. Under imports the most noticeable decreases are under **live animals**, mainly cattle, by R12·41 lakhs (£82,700) to R34·25 lakhs (£228,300), owing to the Debi Patan fair having been held after the close of the year, **grain and pulse** by R25·32 lakhs (£168,800) to R119·38 lakhs (£796,000), **hides of cattle** by R2·11 lakhs (£14,000) to R11·39 lakhs (£75,900), **jute raw** by R2·27 lakhs (£15,100) to R18·68 lakhs (£124,500), **railway materials** by R1·64 lakhs (£10,930) to R2·55 lakhs (£17,000), and **timber** by R1·73 lakhs (£11,530) to R4·05 lakhs (£27,000). There were small increases under **oilseeds** from R40·4 lakhs (£269,300) to R41·21 lakhs (£274,700), **provisions,** chiefly **ghi,** from R27·15 lakhs (£181,000) to R28·34 lakhs (£189,000), **dyeing materials** from R2·77 lakhs (£18,500) to R4·3 lakhs (£28,700), **spices** from R8·56 lakhs (£57,070) to R8·93 lakhs (£59,530), and **tobacco** from R7·42 lakhs (£49,500) to R7·72 lakhs (£51,500). The principal decreases under exports are **cotton yarn** R11·95 lakhs (£79,700) against R16·65 lakhs (£111,000) in 1908-09, **piecegoods** R53·38 lakhs (£355,900) against R57·35 lakhs (£382,300), **grain and pulse** R8·61 lakhs (£57,400) against R8·16 lakhs (£54,400), **metals** R9·92 lakhs (£66,100) against R14·79 lakhs (£98,600), **salt** R10·11 lakhs (£67,400) against R9·02 lakhs (£60,100), in spite of the enhanced tax levied by the Darbar since July 1909, and **provisions** R8·81 lakhs (£58,700) against R8 lakhs (£53,300), other kinds of provisions in which *mahua* is included showing an increase of R70,000 (£4,700). Other exports showing decreases are **spices** R9·86 lakhs (£65,700) against R10·78 lakhs (£71,800) in 1908-09, **sugar** R7·85 lakhs (£52,300) against R8·5 lakhs (£53,700), and **tobacco** R5·89 lakhs (£39,300) against R7·74 lakhs (£51,600).

**Sikkim and Bhutan.**—The trade with Sikkim grew from R17·03 lakhs (£113,500) to R18·55 lakhs (£123,600), while that with Bhutan dropped from

R5·66 lakhs (£37,700) to R3·51 lakh (£23,400). The larger imports from Sikkim of **live animals, ghi,**, and **raw wool** were neutralized by a heavy decline in **grain and pulse, timber,** and **hides and skins.** Under exports the increase of R1·63 lakhs (£10,800) was made up of **grain and pulse, cotton piecegoods, metals, oils, provisions, sugar,** and **tobacco.** Diminished trade in **Indian piecegoods, ponies, musk, ghi, wax, timber,** and **blankets** accounts for a decline in imports from Bhutan, and under exports the marked decreases are under **cotton piecegoods, rice, raw silk silk goods, betel-nuts, sugar,** and **tobacco.** The once important **lac** trade of Bhutan has collapsed owing to lower prices, and the gradual decline in the exports of **rice** indicates an expansion of area and good harvests in the hills.

## EASTERN FRONTIER

**Western China.**—The direct trade with Western China is mainly from Bhamo through the treaty port of Tengyueh in Yunnan. The trade last year declined owing to the outbreak of plague in Mandalay. The principal articles of imports are **animals, hides and skins, provisions, opium, raw silk,** and **orpiment** or yellow arsenic. Of these the last three show decreases. Exports also declined by R1·64 lakhs (£10,900), mostly under **raw cotton, cotton yarn,** and **salt,** though **provisions, jadestone,** and **woollen goods** showed an aggregate increase of nearly R3 lakhs (£20,000).

**Shan States** (North and South).—Most of the trade with the Shan States should be classed as internal trade, for these States are British territory administered under local chiefs, but some trade passes through them to China and Siam. The import trade of Northern States shows a great progressive advancement, while the export trade is declining. The former rose from R81·12 lakhs (£540,800) to R103·86 lakhs (£692,400) and the latter fell from R72·86 lakhs (£486,000) to R68·94 lakhs (£459,600). The largest increase is one of R26·85 lakhs (£179,000) under imports of **metals,** which mainly represents the value of **lead ore** extracted from the Bawdwin mines by the Burma Mines, Limited. **Pickled tea** (*letpet*) advanced by R3·71 lakhs (£24,700) to R27·3 lakhs (£182,000). **Opium** rose by R64,000 (£4,260) to R1·09 lakhs (£7,260). **Horses and ponies, hides and skins,** and **seeds** also showed some advancement. **Rice** fell by R5·36 lakhs (£35,700) to R4·9 lakhs (£32,700), **lac** decreased by R69,138 (£4,609) to R53,782, (£3,585), **tea** by R50,000 (£3,300) to R11·91 lakhs (£79,400), **teak timber** by R2·42 lakhs (£16,100) to R8·07 lakhs (£53,800), and **jadestone** by R42,000 (£2,800) to R1·06 lakh (£7,000). The unspecified "all other unmanufactured articles" include *thanatpet* (cigar wrappers) worth R1·67 lakhs (£11,130). Exports of **cotton yarn** and **piecegoods** declined by R3·71 lakhs (£24,700) and R1·72 lakhs (£11,400) to R7·68 lakhs (£51,200) and R19·79 lakhs (£132,000), respectively. **Animals, apparel,** and **railway materials** also declined. But increases are noticed under **grain and pulse, iron, petroleum, fish, dry and wet salted** (*ngapi*), **betel-nuts, silk goods,** and **tobacco.** It is believed that a considerable volume of **piecegoods, twist and yarn** and **salt** find their way to China.

Both the import and export trade of the Southern States show steady progress. Imports rose by R6·66 lakhs (£44,400) to R48·52 lakhs (£323,400) and exports by R4·71 lakhs (£31,400) to R74·59 lakhs (£497,000). Imports of **horses and ponies, hides and skins,** and **teak timber** improved considerably, but **cattle, potatoes, other sorts of fruits and vegetables** including

**oranges** and **garlic,** and **stick lac** fell in value. Diminished trade in **stick lac** is due partly to the dullness of the foreign markets and partly to the recent imposition of an export duty of ₹10 per 100 viss of the crude article exported from Rangoon in lieu of licenses for Forest extraction. The rains made the season a favourable one for floating **teak** and the amount extracted is the largest on record. In the exports the most noticeable increases are under **cotton yarn** and **piecegoods, apparel, betel-nuts, iron,** and **oils.** The chief articles comprised in the decrease are **silk goods.**

The values of the principal articles of the combined trade with the Shan States are shown below in *thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling :—*

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Imports* | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Animals | 11,51 = | 77 | 14,07 = | 94 |
| Grain and pulse | 11,34 | 76 | 5,34 | 36 |
| Fruits | 8,13 | 54 | 7,30 | 49 |
| Hides | 2,11 | 14 | 3,88 | 26 |
| Lac | 5,58 | 37 | 2,40 | 16 |
| Metals | 7,15 | 48 | 34,09 | 227 |
| Opium | 45 | 3 | 1,10 | 7 |
| Pickled tea | 23,59 | 157 | 27,30 | 182 |
| Oilseeds | 2,27 | 15 | 2,96 | 20 |
| Jadestone | 1,47 | 10 | 1,06 | 7 |
| Tea | 12,45 | 83 | 11,92 | 79 |
| Teak | 16,11 | 107 | 17,76 | 118 |
| Paints | 2,67 | 18 | 2,99 | 20 |

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Exports* | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Animals | 3,27 = | 22 | 2,23 = | 15 |
| Apparel | 3,13 | 21 | 3,98 | 26 |
| Cotton yarn | 13,92 | 93 | 11,22 | 75 |
| „ piecegoods | 57,18 | 381 | 58,80 | 392 |
| Liquors | 1,87 | 12 | 1,94 | 13 |
| Grain | 1,13 | 7 | 1,98 | 13 |
| Metals | 4,50 | 30 | 5,92 | 39 |
| Oils | 6,86 | 46 | 8,24 | 55 |
| Provisions | 17,24 | 115 | 18,52 | 123 |
| Salt | 5,25 | 35 | 5,15 | 34 |
| Silk | 5,95 | 40 | 4,61 | 31 |
| Spices | 5,01 | 33 | 6,20 | 41 |
| Sugar | 1,77 | 12 | 1,83 | 12 |
| Tobacco | 1,56 | 10 | 1,37 | 9 |

**Siam (North and South).**—The trade with Siam across the frontier is much smaller than the trade by sea. There was an increase of ₹44,918 (£2,994) under imports, and of ₹2·4 lakhs (£16,000) under exports, the total values being ₹27·09 lakhs (£180,600) and ₹24·43 lakhs (£162,800) respectively. The principal articles of trade are given below *in units of 1,000 :*

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Imports* | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Animals | 8,01= | 53 | 9,01= | 60 |
| Silk | 5,58 | 37 | 2,73 | 18 |
| Teak timber | 12,83 | 85 | 14,12 | 94 |

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Exports* | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Apparel | 3,00= | 20 | 2,57= | 17 |
| Cotton yarn | 3,38 | 22 | 3,51 | 23 |
| „ piecegoods | 4,17 | 28 | 4,50 | 30 |
| Silk goods | 3,15 | 21 | 3,77 | 25 |
| Jewellery, etc. | 1,39 | 9 | 1,63 | 11 |

Imports of **animals** (mostly **elephants**) and **timber** from North Siam represent over 95 per cent of the total. Both these articles made good the loss of the previous years. **Silk goods** account for the decrease in total imports from South Siam owing to an overstocked market. In exports to North Siam **cotton yarns** and **piecegoods, metals, fish, dry and wet salted,** and **silk goods** contributed to the increases. No important variations are noticed in exports to South Siam except in **silk goods** and **metals.**

**Karennee.**—Imports advanced by ₹5·89 lakhs (£39,200) to ₹21·3 lakhs (£142,000), due to increased imports of **teak timber** and **elephants** *viâ* Toungoo and the newly opened stations at Leiktho. The volume of exports remained steady at ₹2·98 lakhs (£19,800).

## COASTING TRADE

As explained in previous reviews, the correct value of the coasting trade is arrived at by adding to the value of the imports into British ports from other British ports, the sum of the imports and exports in the trade between British ports and those in Foreign possessions or Native States, such as Marmagoa,

Pondicherry, Alleppey, and Karikal. The value so calculated for the year of review is, for **merchandise**, R58·18 crores (£38·78 millions) as against R57·65 crores (£38·43 millions) in 1908-09, shewing an increase of R53 lakhs (£353,000) or not quite one per cent.

Burma's share of the coasting exports of all British India comes to about 40 per cent and the principal articles in this trade are rice, mineral oil, and teakwood. **Rice** represented 80·6 per cent of the total value of all food grains, *viz.*, R15·06 crores (£10·04 millions) against R16·9 crores (£11·27 millions) in 1908-09, shewing a decrease of R1·84 crores (£1·23 millions) or 10·9 per cent and representing 25·8 per cent of the total as against 29·3 per cent in 1908-09. The total exports of **rice** from Burma to Indian ports amounted to 1,038,000 tons, which was less by 119,000 tons than in 1908-09. The **mineral oil** exported from Burma to Indian ports advanced from 70·5 to 88·9 million gallons. Bengal accounted for 47·5 million gallons against 35·2, Madras 15 against 10·9, Eastern Bengal and Assam 8·2 against 7·9, Bombay 11·3 against 10·9, and Sind 3·2 against 2·9 million gallons in 1908-09. Other details have already been given in the sections dealing with foreign imports and exports. As regards the exports of **teakwood** from Burma coastwise, the total value of which last year amounted to R113 lakhs (£753,000), Bengal took R41 lakhs (£273,000) against R40 lakhs (£267,000) in 1908-09.

Bengal naturally monopolises the exports of **Jute bags and cloth** and **coal** to other provinces. But, as in the case of foreign exports, the coastal exports of **jute bags** from Calcutta further declined in quantity from 75 to 73·5 million bags and in value from R191·6 lakhs (£1·28 millions) to R184·1 lakhs (£1·23 millions). Burma took 36·5 million bags against 37·8, Bombay 19·2 against 18·6, Sind 9·2 against 7, and Madras 6·9 against 10·5 million bags in 1908-09. But the coastal exports of **gunny cloths** from Calcutta increased in quantity from 18 to 29 million yards and in value from R21·7 lakhs (£145,000) to R29·2 lakhs (£195,000). As the coal market was dull, the coastal shipments of **Bengal coal** contracted from 2,461,000 tons and R228 lakhs (£1·52 millions) to 2,077,000 tons and R191 lakhs (£1·27 millions), showing a decline of 384,000 tons and R37 lakhs (£247,000).

The Bombay Presidency is the chief centre both for manufacture and distribution of **Indian-made cotton piecegood**; and the exports amounted to 256 million yards, valued at R4·17 crores (£2·78 millions), against 211·9 million yards, valued at R3·52 crores (£2·35 millions) in 1908-09, the measure of improvement being 44·1 million yards or 20·8 per cent in quantity and R65 lakhs (£433,000) or 18·4 per cent in value. The decline in specific value was, however, one of 2·1 per cent. The provincial distribution of these shipments from Bombay in the last two years is shown below:

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Yards | R | £ | Yards | R | £ |
| Sind . | 130,577,509 | 1,98,48,717 = | 1,323,248 | 169,588,572 | 2,61,88,586 = | 1,745,906 |
| Bengal . | 62,450,735 | 1,22,05,119 | 813,674 | 68,184,777 | 1,23,77,632 | 825,175 |
| Burma . | 9,990,695 | 18,72,918 | 124,861 | 11,321,917 | 20,15,616 | 134,374 |
| Madras . | 2,752,556 | 5,18,526 | 34,568 | 2,532,769 | 4,63,530 | 30,902 |

**Raw cotton** is also an important item in the coasting trade of Bombay. The shipments from Bombay, (chiefly to Bengal and Madras), amounted to 176,544 cwts and R49·28 lakhs (£328,000) against 137,880 cwts and R34·33 lakhs (£228,800)in 1908-09. Karachi also shipped 333,394 cwts, value R104 lakhs (£693,000), almost the whole being destined for Bombay.

Madras imported **grain and pulse** worth R589 lakhs (£3·93 millions) against R362 lakhs (£2·41 millions) in 1908-09, owing to unfavourable seasonal conditions in parts of the Presidency. Her chief exports were **ground-nut seeds and oil,** the value of which declined by R43·83 lakhs (£292,200) and R22·91 lakhs (£152,700) to R17·81 lakhs (£118,700) and R16 lakhs (£106,600) respectively.

## RAILWAY GOODS TRAFFIC

The railway goods traffic returns are a fairly reliable barometer of India's mercantile activity. It is the normal movement of goods to and from the ports and between the chief trade centres which dominate the statistics, for when famine conditions prevail the grain movement to areas of scarcity is at such reduced rates that the lines do not benefit proportionately. The following statement shows the total earnings for goods traffic on the railways of India during the last five years :—

| | R | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1905 . . . | 26,20,78,000 | = 17,471,867 |
| 1906 . . . | 27,59,69,000 | 18,397,933 |
| 1907 . . . | 29,24,27,000 | 19,495,133 |
| 1908 . . . | 26,32,06,000 | 17,547,067 |
| 1909 . . . | 28,12,47,000 | 18,749,800 |

The falling-off in 1908 was due to the scarcity prevailing in the first six months of that year and reflected both a shortage of exports and contraction in the import trade. There was a satisfactory recovery, though below the level of 1907, in the last calendar year.

The figures below show the number of goods wagons at work in India at the close of each of the last five years and the additions made in each year :—

| | No. | Addition | | Percentage increase |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1905 . . . . | 111,370 | 2,861 | or | 2·6 |
| 1906 . . . . | 115,686 | 4,316 | ,, | 3·9 |
| 1907 . . . . | 124,094 | 8,408 | ,, | 7·3 |
| 1908 . . . . | 136,318 | 12,224 | ,, | 9·8 |
| 1909 . . . . | 145,535 | 9,217 | ,, | 6·8 |

In this period the increase in goods traffic rolling stock has been one of 37,026 wagons or 34·1 per cent.

From the statistics of twenty-one leading railways the average charge for freight works out at 1·38 pies per ton mile. The units of ton mileage during the past five years have been as follows :

| | |
|---|---|
| 1905 . . . . | 9,260,752,000 |
| 1906 . . . . | 10,052,132,000 |
| 1907 . . . . | 11,103,514,000 |
| 1908 . . . . | 10,199,399,000 |
| 1909 . . . . | 10,951,715,000 |

The principal commodities carried during the last two calendar years have been (*in tons*) :—

| | 1908 | 1909 |
|---|---|---|
| Coal and coke . . . . | 13,243,034 | 12,157,729 |
| Grain and pulse . . . . | 9,115,366 | 9,801,309 |
| Oilseeds . . . . . | 2,095,163 | 2,688,031 |
| Minerals . . . . . | 2,154,232 | 2,286,226 |
| Salt . . . . . | 1,964,120 | 1,982,952 |
| Cotton raw and manufactured . . | 1,605,015 | 1,852,539 |
| Sugar . . . . . | 1,756,799 | 1,715,818 |
| Metals . . . . . | 1,692,361 | 1,711,686 |
| Wood . . . . . | 1,520,845 | 1,518,080 |
| Jute . . . . . | 1,700,341 | 1,488,632 |
| Total . | 36,847,276 | 37,203,002 |

It will be noticed that there is very little variation under any of the heads except coal and coke, food grains, cotton, jute, and oilseeds.

## PRICES

The following table* shows the course of **Indian Rupee prices** of thirty nine commodities imported into, exported from, and consumed in India, during the last five years, as compared with the standard year 1873. The figures represent simple percentages of the average prices as far as available, obtained by expressing the price of each article in each year as a percentage of the price for the year 1873, which latter price is represented by 100.

Certain articles which appear to have something in common have been grouped together with the following result :—

| | 1905 | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Food grains :— Wheat, rice, jawar, bajra, barley, gram, and ragi | 138 | 176 | 181 | 226 | 193 |
| 2. Other food :— ghi and salt | 84 | 82 | 96 | 94 | 81 |
| 3. Sugar and tea | 75 | 68 | 78 | 82 | 85 |
| (1—3) Food | 113 | 133 | 141 | 168 | 147 |
| 4. Minerals :— Iron, copper, spelter, and coal | 106 | 119 | 134 | 135 | 124 |
| 5. Textiles :— Cotton, silk, jute, and wool | 105 | 122 | 127 | 108 | 96 |
| 6. Sundry materials :— Hides and skins, indigo, kerosene, lac, saltpetre, and seeds | 115 | 136 | 143 | 138 | 127 |
| (4—6) Materials | 109 | 127 | 135 | 126 | 114 |
| (1—6) General average | 111 | 129 | 137 | 139 | 124 |

The general average is drawn from all thirty-nine descriptions which are treated as of equal value, and is the simple arithmetic mean as shown above.

CALCUTTA:
*August 6, 1910.*

C. W. E. COTTON,
*Offg. Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.*

* Detailed figures will be found in the separate compilation of this Department styled "Variations in Indian Price Levels expressed in Index Numbers."

# EAST INDIA (TRADE).

# REVIEW

OF THE

# TRADE OF INDIA

IN

# 1910-11.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and 32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

PRINTED IN INDIA.

1911.

[Cd. 5909.] *Price* 1*s.* 1*d.*

(21622—3.) Wt. 20715—208. 800. 10/11. D & S.

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## NOTE

All sums of money in this Review are stated in rupees and their equivalents in pounds sterling.

For 1898-99 and subsequent years a pound sterling is equivalent to ₹15. The rupee is divided into sixteen annas and the anna into twelve pies. The anna is, at the stated rate of Exchange, equal to one penny.

A sum of ₹1,00,000, ordinarily termed a lakh, is equivalent to £6,666 13*s* 4*d*. and a crore of rupees, which is 100 lakhs, is equal to £666,666 13*s*. 4*d*. The simplest method of conversion is to multiply the number of rupees by 2 and put a decimal point to the left of the unit figure and then divide by 3, the quotient being the sterling equivalent in pounds and decimals. If it is desired to reduce these decimal figures to shillings and pence, the first two decimal figures should be divided by 5 to furnish the number of shillings, and the remainder to two places divided by 4 to find the number of pence.

Weights in this Review are stated in lbs, cwts, and tons, but for purpose of reference to current literature about Indian trade, it is well to state that the weights most commonly quoted in such literature are as follows:

| Divisions | Systematic name | Metric value | British Imperial value |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Grammes | Grains |
| | 1 Tola = | 11·6638 = | 180 |
| 5 Tolas = | 1 Chittak = | 58·319022 = | 900 |
| | | | Pounds |
| 16 Chittaks = | 1 Seer = | 933·10436 = | $2\frac{2}{35}$ |
| | | Kilogrammes | |
| 5 Seers = | 1 Passeeree or Punsarie = | 4·66552 = | $10\frac{2}{7}$ |
| 8 Passeerees or 40 Seers = | 1 Imperial or Indian Maund = | 37·324 = | $82\frac{2}{7}$ |

*This map is intended to illustrate the principal sources of specific products. The principal areas of production of the staple crops of British India, namely, rice, wheat, oil-seeds, sugarcane, tea, coffee, cotton, and jute, are indicated by hatchings—horizontal, vertical, and diagonal—in two colours, black and red; and the location of the principal coal-fields is marked with black dots. For want of data, no information is given as regards Native States, and the districts in which the area under the selected crop is less than 10 per cent of the total cropped area have been ignored. The chief railway systems are indicated by thin black lines.*

INDIA
REFERENCES
RICE
WHEAT
TEA
COFFEE
COAL
OILSEEDS
SUGARCANE
COTTON
JUTE
RUSSIAN TERRITORY
HERAT
KABUL
KANDAHAR
QUETTA
Khiva
BHUTAN
Darjeeling
Shillong
Cherrapunji
Imphal
Kohima
Aijal
Agartala
Dibrugarh
Sadiya
Myitkyina
Bhamo
Mandalay
Kyaukse
Monywa
Prome
Thayetmyo
Henzada
Bassein
Akyab
Sandoway
Thongwa
Moulmein
Tavoy
Mergui
Victoria L.
Jaisalmer
Bikaner
Jodhpur
Mt. Abu
Udaipur
Bhuj
Jhalia
Rajkot
Porbandar
Veraval
Diu
Damaun
Bombay
Poona
Ahmednagar
Sholapur
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Sambalpur
Bilaspur
Jubbulpore
Mhow
Indore
Ujjain
Bhopal
Ratlam
Kotah
Gwalior
Agra
Delhi
Meerut
Ambala
Simla
Dehra Dun
Saharanpur
Lucknow
Cawnpore
Allahabad
Benares
Gaya
Patna
Monghyr
Bhagalpur
Purnea
Darbhanga
Muzaffarpur
Gorakhpur
Fyzabad
Sitapur
Bareilly
Moradabad
Rampur
Jullundur
Amritsar
Lahore
Multan
Jhelum
Rawalpindi
Peshawar
Kohat
Bannu
Dera Ismail Khan
Dera Ghazi Khan
Sukkur
Hyderabad
Karachi
Kalat
Sibi
Nushki
Chaman
Ghuznee
Ferozepore
Srinagar
Jammu
Leh
Kashgar
Yarkand
Khotan
Aksai Chin
Gilgit
Chitral
Kohat
Pamir
Tibet
Nepal
Sikkim
Assam
Khasi Hills
Garo Hills
Naga Hills
Manipur
Chittagong
Dacca
Calcutta
Midnapore
Cuttack
Puri
Ganjam
Vizagapatam
Rajahmundry
Masulipatam
Guntur
Nellore
Madras
Pondicherry
Cuddalore
Salem
Coimbatore
Erode
Trichinopoly
Madura
Tuticorin
Tinnevelly
Travancore
Cape Comorin
Cochin
Calicut
Mangalore
Mysore
Bangalore
Kolar
Cuddapah
Kurnool
Anantapur
Bellary
Raichur
Gulbarga
Aurangabad
Nasik
Ahmednagar
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Satara
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Cambay
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Mehsana
Palanpur
Deesa
Abu
Sirohi
Pali
Nagaur
Jaipur
Alwar
Bharatpur
Dholpur
Gwalior
Jhansi
Lucknow
Cawnpore
Fatehpur
Allahabad
Mirzapur
Benares
Jaunpur
Ghazipur
Ballia
Gorakhpur
Basti
Gonda
Bahraich
Fyzabad
Sultanpur
Rae Bareli
Unao
Hardoi
Shahjahanpur
Pilibhit
Bareilly
Moradabad
Rampur
Bijnor
Meerut
Muzaffarnagar
Saharanpur
Ambala
Karnal
Rohtak
Hissar
Sirsa
Ferozepore
Jullundur
Amritsar
Gurdaspur
Lahore
Sialkot
Gujranwala
Sheikhupura
Lyallpur
Montgomery
Multan
Jhang
Shahpur
Gujrat
Jhelum
Rawalpindi
Attock
Hazara
Peshawar
Kohat
Bannu
Dera Ismail Khan
Dera Ghazi Khan
Muzaffargarh
Sukkur
Khairpur
Hyderabad
Mirpur Khas
Thar and Parkar
Nawabshah
Larkana
Jacobabad
Shikarpur
Sibi
Quetta
Nushki
Chagai
Kharan
Panjgur
Las Bela
Kalat
Khuzdar
Zhob
Loralai
Sibi
Kachhi
Makran
Gwadar
Jiwani
Pasni
Ormara
Karachi
Thatta
Badin
Tando Muhammad Khan
Mirpur Sakro
Umarkot
Nagar Parkar
Rann of Kutch
Kutch

THE

# TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

WITH

# FOREIGN COUNTRIES

For the official year ending March 31, 1911

## CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

It is necessary to keep constantly in mind that the trading power of India depends primarily on the success of its crops. But produce is in some important instances exported in the official year following that in which it was grown. In the notes relating to such descriptions of produce, reference to the weather of the previous season is, therefore, requisite. The following notes, however, summarise the weather record of the season 1910-11. They are founded on weather reports that accompanied the several crop forecasts.

The rains and the great agricultural operations which so vitally depend upon them, have been on the whole most satisfactory. The timely and well-distributed winter rainfall had brought fine crops to harvest in the spring of 1910. When the hot weather came on, conditions were normal. Towards the close of April 1910, good rain was received in Eastern Bengal and Assam and parts of the Panjab. May was dry in the United Provinces, but showery in Bengal and the North-West Frontier Province, though the fall was generally defective. Eastern Bengal and Assam had copious rain in that month. The monsoon arrived much before its usual time in Bengal, Eastern Bengal and Assam, and the Central Provinces, but it was rather late in the Panjab. The Bombay monsoon started on the due date and spread with much vigour, so that the area affected by it was never in danger. Moderate to heavy rain fell in most of the provinces during the month of June. In July, though heavy floods affected the autumn crops in Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam, the rain was about 16 per cent short of normal fall and its distribution was unequal. The deficiency was serious in the United Provinces, which obtained less than two-thirds of their proper supply, in Rajputana, the western portion of the Central Provinces, Malabar, and Lower Burma. In other parts of India, particularly Madras, the average was exceeded and at places the falls were abnormally heavy. Matters for a time were critical, especially in the United Provinces. But the bountiful rain that fell in August restored the prospects, and favourable conditions again asserted themselves.

Heavy rain fell in September in Bengal, the Central Provinces, the United Provinces, Burma, and parts of the Panjab. The beginning of October was marked by heavy rain, but the latter part of it was practically rainless in several provinces. Excessive rain again fell in the middle of November in the Central Provinces and the United Provinces, but this facilitated the sowing of wheat. Except in Bengal, the weather in December was dry almost everywhere. In the fourth week of the month intense cold accompanied with severe frost caused injury to the sugarcane crop in the Panjab. The record of the winter showers has been generally satisfactory. In January good rain was received in

Bengal, the Central Provinces, the United Provinces, the Panjab, and the North-West Frontier Province; but cloudy weather in the United Provinces and frost, hail, fog, and cloudy weather in the Central Provinces did some injury to the spring crops. In the beginning of February severe cold and frost affected cotton and wheat crops in parts of Bombay and Sind. On the whole seasonal conditions were fairly favourable during the year.

The net effect of these conditions may be gathered from the following estimates of yield of the principal crops as compared with similar statistics for the two previous years :—

| | 1908-09 tons | 1909-10 tons | 1910-11 tons |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rice | 19,549,000 | 27,856,800 | 27,701,400 |
| Cotton | 659,100 | 842,100 | 783,000 |
| Wheat | 7,615,500 | 9,590,600 | 9,900,800 |
| Jute | 1,126,900 | 1,286,900 | 1,416,000 |
| Rape and mustard | 987,500 | 1,270,300 | 1,260,200 |
| Linseed | 297,700 | 427,800 | 557,800 |

Since some of the produce exported in 1910-11 was derived from crops grown in 1909-10 it is necessary to show the variations for two years. The percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) in the area and outturn of the crops, as compared with the previous year, was as follows :—

| | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Area per cent | Outturn per cent | Area per cent | Outturn per cent |
| Rice | +9·5 | +42·5 | —0·5 | —0·6 |
| Cotton | +2·6 | +27·8 | +7·0 | —7·0 |
| Wheat | +6·8 | +25·9 | +5·5 | +3·2 |
| Jute | +0·7 | +14·2 | +2·1 | +10·0 |
| Rape and mustard | +6·0 | +23·4 | —1·3 | —0·8 |
| Linseed | +6·6 | +43·6 | +16·7 | +30·4 |

A calculation based on the average monthly prices of the seven principal food grains current in India during the five years 1903-1907 yields index numbers as follows :—1906, 118 ; 1907, 122 ; 1908, 154 ; 1909, 126 ; 1910, 108. A further investigation as to the effect of these variations in price, when applied to the estimated normal consumption of food grains per head of the population, shows that in 1910-11 the sum saved as compared with 1909-10 and so made available for other purchases was about ₹63·23 crores (£42,153,300), whereas the total value of the imports was ₹169·06 crores (£112,706,700) and the increase in the value of total imports was ₹14·58 crores (£9,720,000). But this does not represent the full increase in purchasing power. Most of the consumers of food grains are cultivators and profited by the favourable crops while in some cases accepting lower prices for their produce.

In India it is impossible to make a general valuation of the agricultural produce seeing that the data are not available. But in respect of cotton, jute, rice, wheat, tea, linseed, rape and mustard, sesamum, and groundnut a rough computation may be attempted. The prices used in this computation are the average wholesale prices ruling at certain principal marts in India. In respect of groundnuts it has been necessary to accept the declared values of exports in the absence of any other regular quotations. The calculation does not show the farm values ; but for comparative purposes it has some interest. In 1909-10 not only were the outturns much greater than in 1908-09, but the prices of some

of the products (*e.g.*, cotton and tea) were substantially better. In 1910-11 there was in some cases a diminution of outturn, but with the exceptions of rice, wheat, and certain oilseeds this was more than recouped by the rise in values, while the increase in the prices of cotton, jute, and linseed added largely to the collective value of the selected crops. A calculation, restricted to the specified crops and based on the crop estimates and official price records, has been carried out. It suggests that the aggregate value of the said crops has been approximately as follows in the last five years :—1906-07, ₹421·5 crores (£281,000,000); 1907-08, ₹420·24 crores (£280,160,000); 1908-09, ₹461·93 crores (£307,953,333); 1909-10, ₹551·84 crores (£367,893,333); and 1910-11 ₹513·52 crores (£342,346,667).

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF TRADE

In the year under review India participated fully in that revival of trade which has been more or less general throughout the world. Disturbing influences have been present in several countries. The United States has not shaken off the sequelæ of the catastrophe of 1907, and trade there has been dull and hesitating throughout the year. The high cost of living has been felt by the industrial classes in the United States and on the European Continent, while France and Italy further suffered from bad crops and diminished purchasing power.

While the great advance in prices in 1909 was not an element of health, since it was due to shortage of cotton and food stuffs, that which took place in 1910, though only amounting to about one half of the rise in the previous year, resulted largely from real improvement in demand. The most important feature, however, was the sustained high cost of cotton, while the period covered by the Indian official year was remarkable for the climax in rubber, for its subsequent decline to about half of the maximum attained, and for the booms in tin and in coffee.

There has been dissatisfaction among the industrial population in several countries; and the United Kingdom had serious labour troubles, of which the more important were those affecting coal-miners in Northumberland and South Wales, cotton operatives in Lancashire, and shipbuilders under members of the Employer's Federation. Other sinister influences were the death of King Edward and the occurrence of two general elections. But England's harvest was fairly good in spite of excessive rain. There was an unmistakeable improvement in the iron trade in spite of the lock-out in shipbuilding; and although cotton spinning was seriously depressed, looms were very active in the latter part of the year. The woollen trade has thriven and one of the features of the year was the further activity of the tin-plate industry. In effect, the foreign trade of the United Kingdom has attained a figure that exceeds that recorded in the "boom" year 1907. It will be seen from the following summary that the actual and centesimal increase in the external trade of England has exceeded that in the other principal countries, and that India has surpassed the mother country in the rate of increase.

The imports into the **United Kingdom** rose from £624·7 millions to £678·44 millions, exports from £378·18 millions to £430·59 millions, and the total from £1,002·88 millions to £1,109·03 millions. These figures mark increases of £53·74 millions, £52·41 millions, and £106·15 millions, the rates of progress being 8·6 per cent, 13·9 per cent and 10·6 per cent respectively.

The total in 1907 was £1,066·83 millions. The imports into the **United States** were £325·61 millions or £18·21 millions more than in 1909. The exports were £380·68 millions or £26·36 millions more, and the total of £706·29 millions was £44·57 millions (6·7 per cent) more than in the previous year. **Germany** recorded imports £423·28 millions and exports £367·13 millions, with a total of £790·41 millions, which marks an increase of £46·95 millions (6·3 per cent) made up of £4·04 millions in imports and £42·91 millions in exports. **Austria-Hungary** imported goods worth £118·46 millions which was some £4·03 millions more than in 1909; while her exports advanced by £3·07 millions to £99·69 millions, and the total trade rose by 3·4 per cent, namely, from £211·04 millions to £218·15 millions. **France** increased her imports from £249·84 millions to £270·39 millions and her exports from £228·72 to £240·23 millions, the total trade being thus £510·62 millions as compared with £478·56 millions, which marks a gain of 6·7 per cent. **Belgium's** total trade advanced by nearly 7·8 per cent from £245·47 millions to £264·52 millions.

**India's** imports in 1910-11 rose from £102·99 millions to £112·71 millions, her exports from £129·52 millions to £144·17 millions, and her total trade from £232·51 millions to £256·88 millions, which last figure represents an increase of £24·37 millions or about 10·5 per cent.

India's **grand total** of Exports and Imports stated in Indian currency was R385·32 crores as against R348·76 crores in 1909-10, the increase being one of R36·56 crores or 10·48 per cent. The total includes some R4·26 crores (£2,840,000) of foreign merchandise re-exported but excludes about R4·35 crores (£2,900,000) of stores imported by Government, of which R1·94 crores (£1,293,300) represent material for State Railways. The highest total on record in any previous year had been as follows:—

| | | R | | £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total . . . | 1909-10 | 348,76,20,000 | = | 232,508,000 |
| Exports . . . | „ | 194,27,84,000 | | 129,519,000 |
| Imports . . . | „ | 154,48,36,000 | | 102,989,000 |

**Exports** represented 56·12 per cent of this grand total and amounted to R216·25 crores (£144,166,700), as against R194·28 crores (£129,520,000) in the previous year. The increase here was R21·97 crores (£14,647,000) and this represented 60·12 per cent of the total increase in trade and 11·31 per cent on the export figures for 1909-10.

**Imports** had a total value of R169·06 crores (£112,708,000) as against R154·48 crores (£102,989,000) in 1909-10, the advance here being R14·58 crores (£9,720,000) or 9·44 per cent.

**Exports of Indian Merchandise** represented 53·17 per cent of the total trade, as against 52·9 per cent in 1909-10. These exports rose from R184·5 crores (£123,000,000) to R204·87 crores (£136,580,000), which implies a rise of R20·37 crores (£13,580,000) or 11·04 per cent. This accounts for 55·73 per cent of the total increase in the year's trade.

**Re-exports of Foreign Merchandise** advanced from R3·39 crores (£2,260,000) in 1909-10 to R4·26 crores (£2,840,000) in 1910-11, the increase here being R87·24 lakhs (£581,600) or 25·71 per cent. An exceptional feature here was the large re-exportation of cane sugar to the United Kingdom and other countries.

The movements of **Treasure** merit special mention, the large imports of gold in the later months being specially interesting.

In the following statement the value of the sea-borne trade of India for the year 1910-11 is summarised and compared with the value of the trade in each of the two preceding years. Government transactions both in merchandise and in treasure are excluded. **The unit in every case is 1,000** :—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Exports*— | | | | | | |
| Indian merchandise | 1,49,85,73= | 99,905 | 1,84,49,64= | 122,998 | 2,04,87,27= | 136,582 |
| Foreign merchandise re-exported | 3,17,07 | 2,114 | 3,38,87 | 2,259 | 4,26,11 | 2,841 |
| Gold | 3,68,81 | 2,459 | 3,34,85 | 2,232 | 3,91,54 | 2,610 |
| Silver | 2,26,86 | 1,512 | 3,04,48 | 2,030 | 3,20,41 | 2,136 |
| Total Exports | 1,58,98,47 | 105,990 | 1,94,27,84 | 129,519 | 2,16,25,33 | 144,169 |
| *Imports*— | | | | | | |
| Merchandise | 1,21,26,58= | 80,844 | 1,17,05,75= | 78,038 | 1,29,35,96= | 86,240 |
| Gold | 8,40,42 | 5,603 | 25,01,75 | 16,678 | 27,89,10 | 18,594 |
| Silver | 14,32,76 | 9,485 | 12,40,86 | 8,273 | 11,81,23 | 7,874 |
| Total Imports | 1,43,89,76 | 95,932 | 1,54,48,36 | 102,989 | 1,69,06,29 | 112,708 |
| Grand Total | 3,02,88,23 | 201,922 | 3,48,76,20 | 232,508 | 3,85,31,62 | 256,877 |

The increases or decreases under these several heads in the year under review are as follows, as compared with the two previous years :—

| | 1909-10 | | | 1908-09 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | Per cent | ₹ | £ | Per cent |
| *Exports*— | | | | | | |
| Indian merchandise | +20,37,63= | 13,584= | 11·04 | +55,01,54= | 36,677= | 36·7 |
| Foreign, „ | + 87,24 | 582 | 25·74 | + 1,09,04 | 727 | 34·4 |
| Gold | + 56,69 | 378 | 16·9 | + 22,73 | 151 | 6·2 |
| Silver | + 15,93 | 106 | 5·2 | + 93,55 | 624 | 41·2 |
| Total Exports | +21,97,49 | 14,650 | 11·31 | +57,26,86 | 38,179 | 36·02 |
| *Imports*— | | | | | | |
| Merchandise | +12.30,21= | 8,202= | 10·51 | + 8,09,38= | 5,396= | 6·67 |
| Gold | + 2,87,35 | 1,916 | 11·5 | +19,48,68 | 12,991 | 231·9 |
| Silver | — 59,63 | 399 | 4·8 | — 2,41,53 | 1,611 | 16·9 |
| Total Imports | +14,57,93 | 9,719 | 9·44 | +25,16,53 | 16,776 | 17·49 |
| Grand Total | +36,55,42 | 24,369 | 10·48 | +82,43,39 | 54,955 | 27·22 |

**Bengal's** share of the total movement of merchandise was 37·5 per cent as against 38·3 per cent in 1909-10. Her aggregate rose from ₹116·94 crores (£77,960,000) to ₹126·87 crores (£84,580,000), the advance being ₹9·93 crores (£6,620,000) or 8·5 per cent. The increase in exports was one of ₹8·01 crores (£5,340,000) or 11·4 per cent, bringing the total to ₹78·33 crores (£52,220,000) in place of ₹70·32 crores (£46,880,000) in 1909-10. The total imports of ₹48·54 crores (£32,360,000) marked an increase of ₹1·92 crores (£1,280,000), or 4·1 per cent, as compared with the previous year.

**Eastern Bengal and Assam** returned a total trade of ₹5·04 crores (£3,360,000), which consisted of ₹54 lakhs (£360,000) imports and ₹4·5 crores (£3,000,000) exports. The comparative figures recorded for the new province, therefore, show an increase of ₹12 lakhs (£80,000 ) or 2·4 per cent.

**Bombay,** which did 32·6 per cent of the total trade in place of 31·2 per cent in 1909-10, shows an increased aggregate of ₹110·39 crores

(£73,593,000), as against R95·09 crores (£63,393,000) in 1909-10, the advance here being one of R15·3 crores (£10,200,000) or 16·1 per cent. Her exports advanced by R7·49 crores (£4,993,300) to R63·04 crores (£42,026,700) and her imports by R7·81 crores (£5,206,700) to 47·35 crores (£31,567,000). The percentage increase in these two cases were 13·5 per cent and 19·8 per cent respectively.

**Sind's** total movement of merchandise marked a slight advance from R32·06 crores (£21,373,300) to R32·68 crores (£21,786,700) in the year under review and consisted of R21·15 crores (£14,100,000) in exports and R11·53 crores (£7,686,700) in imports. Her share in the total trade of the country receded to 9·7 per cent, as a result of the greater activity elsewhere. It slightly exceeded the shares of Burma and of Madras; and this was due mainly to her still considerable export trade in produce. That export trade fell from R22·09 crores (£14,726,700) to R21·15 crores (£14,100,000). Her imports, however, amounted to R11·53 crores (£7,686,700) in place of R9·97 crores (£6,646,700) in 1909-10.

**Madras** returns a total trade of R31·72 crores (£21,146,700), which is greater by R2·74 crores (£1,826,700) or 9·4 per cent than in the previous year. Her exports increased by 8 per cent to R21·08 crores (£14,053,300), and her imports by 12·3 per cent to R10·64 crores (£7,093,300).

**Burma** returns a total trade of R31·79 crores (£21,193,300), which is greater by R4·85 crores (£3,233,300) or 18 per cent than in the previous year. Her exports improved by R4·97 crores (£3,313,300) or 30·9 per cent to R21·03 crores (£14,020,000); while her imports fell by R12·08 lakhs (£80,500) or 1·1 per cent to R10·76 crores (£7,173,300).

While Bombay's imports increased by 19·8 per cent, those of Sind by 15·6 per cent, and those of Madras by 12·3 per cent, Bengal's figures progressed by only 4·1 per cent; Eastern Bengal and Assam showed a decrease of 5·8 per cent, and Burma recorded a decline of 1·1 per cent.

The **Exports of Indian merchandise** form 60·52 per cent of the sum of imports and exports, and 97·96 per cent of the total exports as against 60·5 per cent and 98·2 per cent in 1909-10. The total value was R204·87 crores (£136,580,000) as against R184·5 crores (£123,000,000) in 1909-10, the increase being R20·37 crores (£13,580,000) or 11·04 per cent.

**Raw materials and unmanufactured articles** form 46 per cent of the total as against 45·3 per cent in 1909-10. The total value under this head was R94·21 crores (£62,806,700) against R83·63 crores (£55,753,300) in 1909-10, the increase being R10·58 crores (£7,053,300) or 12·65 per cent. The principal items are **raw cotton, seeds, and raw jute** which constitute respectively 37·6 per cent, 26·7 per cent, and 16·4 per cent of the total in this class. In **cotton** the advance was due entirely to the rise in price and amounted to R3·67 crores (£2,446,700) or 11·7 per cent, creating the record total of R35·10 crores (£23,400,000), though the quantity was less than in 1909-10. **Seeds** at R25·12 crores (£16,746,700) established another record, and marked an advance of R6·40 crores (£4,266,700) or 34·18 per cent. The development in **Raw Jute** amounted only to about R40 lakhs (£266,700) or 2·66 per cent. **Raw hides** advanced by R27 lakhs (£180,000) or 5·2 per cent and stood at R5·40 crores (£3,600,000). The highest figure recorded under this head was R6·4 crores in 1906-07. **Raw skins** showed a further decline of R92·72 lakhs (£618,100) or 20·5 per cent which brought them back to R3·60 crores (£2,400,000) or nearly where the trade stood two years ago.

**Exports of Indian manufactures** represent about 18·05 per cent of the total exports. Their value declined from R38 06 crores (£25,373,300) to R36·98 crores (£24,653,300), the loss being R1·08 crores (£720,000) or 2·84 per cent. In this class **Jute goods** represented nearly 16 per cent of the total and continued to hold the lead with a diminished value of R16·99 crores (£11,326,700), less by R10·2 lakhs (£68,000) or ·6 per cent than in 1909-10. **Cotton goods** declined by a net R90·36 lakhs (£602,400) or 7·6 per cent to R11·01 crores (£7,340,000) which is 4 5 per cent lower than the figure of two years ago. The decline is accounted for by the fall of R108·5 lakhs (£723,300) in **yarns,** partly offset by rises of R16·23 lakhs (£108,200) in **piece-goods** and of R1·91 lakhs (£12,700) in **other cotton goods.** Exports of **lac,** which have been comparatively weak since 1907-08, receded by R64 lakhs (£426,700) or 23·3 per cent to R2·11 crores (£1,406,700) Exports of **Hides and skins, raw and tanned,** fell by R54 lakhs (£360,000) or 3·97 per cent, bringing the total from R13·62 crores (£9,080,000) to R13·08 crores (£8,720,000). **Tanned hides,** at R1·27 crores (£846,700), showed a loss of R16·97 lakhs (£113,100), but **tanned skins** at R2·82 crores (£1,880,000) gained R29·17 lakhs (£194,500).

**Articles of food and drink** constitute some 27 per cent of the total exports. They show an advance of R6·34 crores (£4,226,700) or 12·92 per cent, bringing the total value up to R55·37 crores (£36,913,300) as compared with R49·04 crores (£32,693,300) in 1909-10. Of this class **Rice** represented 41·96 per cent and stood at R23·23 crores (£15,486,700) as against R18·24 crores (£12,160,000) in 1909-10, the advance being R4·99 crores (£3,326,700) or 27·34 per cent. **Wheat and wheat flour** at R13·59 crores (£9,060,000) showed an increase of R28·68 lakhs (£191,200) or 2·16 per cent, and represented 24·5 per cent of the total class **Other food grains** at R1·76 crores (£1,173,300) showed a decline of R26·38 lakhs (£175,900) or 13 per cent. All other articles of food and drink marked increases. **Tea** rose by R70·9 lakhs (£472,700) to R12·42 crores (£8,280,000), **Coffee** rose by R23·52 lakhs (£156,800) to R1·33 crores (£886,700), **Fruits and vegetables** by R7·92 lakhs (£52,800) to R1·02 crores (£680,000), **Provisions** by R13·65 lakhs (£91,000) to R1·02 crores (£680,000), and **Spices** by R10·09 lakhs (£67,300) to R80·94 lakhs (£539,600).

**Exports of Metals and manufactures thereof** in 1909-10 represented 0·6 per cent of the total exports; but in 1910-11 the percentage exceeded 0·7 as the value under this head advanced by R34·83 lakhs (£232,200) or 31·46 per cent to R1·45 crores (£966,700). Of this increase **Manganese Ore,** with a value of R91·9 lakhs (£612,700), contributed R12·79 lakhs (£85,300).

**Chemicals, drugs,** etc. with a marked advance of R3·76 crores (£2,506,700), stand now at R15·02 crores (£10,013,300) as against R11·26 crores (£7,506,700) in 1909-10.

**Export of Oils** form a less important item with a total of R1·60 crores (£1,066,700); but this is a record and shows a net advance of R39·22 lakhs (£261,500) as compared with 1909-10. **Mineral Oil** (including wax) at R78·92 lakhs (£526,100) increased by R29·96 lakhs (£199,700) or 61 per cent; and **vegetable and other oils** at R81·16 lakhs (£541,100) rose by R9·26 lakhs (£61,700).

In **Re-exports of Foreign merchandise,** which represent 2·04 per cent of the total exports, the total value was R4·26 crores (£2,840,000) as against R3·39 crores (£2,260,000) in 1909-10. The advance is one of R87·24 lakhs

(£581,600) or 25·74 per cent. The largest single item in this class is, as usual, **Cotton manufactures** (including **twist and yarn**) with a total of R1·61 crores (£1,073,300), which is more by R39·37 lakhs (£262,500) than the R1·21 crores (£806,700) of 1909-10. **Metals and hardware** showed a further increase of R9·73 lakhs (£64,900), bringing the total to R35·34 lakhs (£235,600) in place of R25·6 lakhs (£170,700) in 1909-10. **Raw wool** rose by R68,000 (£4,500) to R29·48 lakhs (£196,500), **Provisions** by R3·39 lakhs (£22,600) to R2 ·36 lakhs (£135,700), **Apparel** by R3 lakhs (£20,000) to R18·7 lakhs (£124,700), **Oils** by R78,590 (£5,200), and other articles by R14·43 lakhs (£96,200). **Sugar,** with a total value of R32·41 lakhs (£216,100), marked an advance of R15·85 lakhs (£105,700), or nearly 96 per cent, as a result of re-exportations of Java and Mauritius sugars in response to high prices in England.

## IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE

This section of India's sea-borne trade forms about 33·1 per cent of the whole. Its value in 1909-10 was R117·06 crores (£78,040,000), but in the year under review it rose to R129·36 crores (£86,240,000). The advance of R12·3 crores (£8,200,000) represents 10·5 per cent of the previous year's figures ; but the total is still short by R53 lakhs (£353,300) of that recorded in 1907-08. The following statement compares the value of the imports in 1910-11 with the average values for each quinquennial period from 1880-81 to 1909-10 and with the single year 1909-10 (*the unit being 1,000*). It shows also the centesimal variations, the average annual total value from 1880-81 to 1884-85 being taken as 100.

| | | R | £ | Variation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, | 1880-81 to 1884-85 . . | 50,63,14= | 41,444 | 100 |
| „ | 1885-86 to 1889-90 . . | 61,19,76 | 43,624 | 120·9 |
| „ | 1890-91 to 1894-95 . . | 68,47,04 | 44,192 | 135·2 |
| „ | 1895-96 to 1899-1900 . . | 69,89,38 | 43,995 | 138 |
| „ | 1900-01 to 1904-05 . . | 83,61,72 | 55,745 | 165·1 |
| „ | 1905-06 to 1909-10 . . | 1,15,92,20 | 77,281 | 228·9 |
| In the year | 1909-10 . . . . | 1,17,05,75 | 78,038 | 231·2 |
| „ | 1910-11 . . . . | 1,29,35,96 | 86,240 | 255·5 |

The value of each of the seven classes in which the articles are grouped was, in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling :—**

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| I. Animals, living (mostly horses) . | 46,56= | 310 | 44,10= | 294 | 30,56= | 204 | 34,66= | 231 | 59,39= | 396 |
| II. Articles of food and drink . . | 15,71,53 | 10,477 | 17,13,42 | 11,423 | 19,52,64 | 13,018 | 18,95,86 | 12,639 | 20,87,80 | 13,919 |
| III. Metals and manufactures of metals . . | 22,64,19 | 15,095 | 30,14,30 | 20,095 | 29,96,46 | 19,976 | 26,03,42 | 17,356 | 26,81,08 | 17,874 |
| IV. Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyes . | 3,10,86 | 2,072 | 3,58,85 | 2,392 | 3,27,16 | 2,181 | 3,76,44 | 2,510 | 3,69,95 | 2,466 |
| V. Oils . . . | 2,76,78 | 1,845 | 3,69,49 | 2,463 | 4,15,85 | 2,772 | 3,34,84 | 2,232 | 3,60,61 | 2,404 |
| VI. Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . | 4,39,82 | 2,932 | 5,00,40 | 3,336 | 4,78,64 | 3,191 | 4,79,68 | 3,198 | 4,62,02 | 3,080 |
| VII. Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . . | 59,21,02 | 39,474 | 69,88,95 | 46,593 | 59,25,26 | 39,502 | 59,80,85 | 39,872 | 69,15,11 | 46,101 |

Of these, the class **Articles manufactured and partly manufactured** contributes the largest sum. In 1908-09 it formed nearly 48·8 per cent of the total, and in 1909-10 about 51 per cent. In 1910-11 the percentage rose to 53·5 and the aggregate in this class advanced from R59·81 crores (£39,873,300) to R69·15 crores (£46,100,000). The advance of R9·34 crores (£6,226,700) represents 15·6 per cent on the previous year's figures, but the total still falls short of that for 1907-08 by some R74 lakhs (£493,300). The total increase in **Cotton goods** within that class amounted to R5·47 crores (£3,646,700) or 13·9 per cent, bringing the total value up from R39·37 crores (£26,246,700) to R44·84 crores (£29,893,300). **Grey goods** with a value of R17·69 crores (£11,793,300) represent 39·5 per cent of the cotton goods; and the increase of R17·42 lakhs (£116,100) in this class represents an advance of about 1 per cent. **White goods**, on the other hand, rose to R9·55 crores (£4,366,700), the increase here being R1·86 crores (£1,240,000) or 24·3 per cent. **Coloured goods**, at R11·76 crores (£7,840,000), showed an advance of R3·08 crores (£2,053,300), while **yarns**, at R3·14 crores (£2,093,300), showed a decline of R18·24 lakhs (£121,600). **Silk and woollen goods** also show increases of R49·77 lakhs (£331,800) and R93·86 lakhs (£625,700), respectively. **Apparel** rose to R3·1 crores (£2,066,700) and made an advance of R71·63 lakhs (£477,500) in value. Other notable advances in this class were R28·29 lakhs (£188,600) in **glass** and **glassware** and R36·62 lakhs (£244,100) in **carriages.**

The third class, **Metals and manufactures thereof,** comes next in importance. Its total value rose from R26·03 crores (£17,353,300) to R26·81 crores (£17,873,300), the net increase being one of R77·66 lakhs (£517,700) or nearly 3 per cent; but owing to the larger increases under some other heads, its share of the total declined from 22·2 per cent to 20·7 per cent. **Railway plant,** with a total of R4·25 crores (£2,833,300), showed a decrease of R119·52 lakhs (£796,800); and there was a decline of R33·03 lakhs (£220,200) under **machinery.** The total value of **metals** rose from R12·77 crores (£8,513,300) to R14·49 crores (£9,660,000), the net gain being R1·72 crores (£1,146,700). This resulted from increases of R1·07 crores (£713,300) or 40·3 per cent under **copper** and of R60·39 lakhs (£402,600) or 15·6 per cent under **steel. Hardware and cutlery** advanced by R58·05 lakhs (£387,000) to R3·35 crores (£2,233,300).

In the second class, **Articles of food and drink,** which represent about 16·1 per cent of the total imports of merchandise, there was an increase amounting to R1·92 crores (£1,280,000) or 10·1 per cent, which brought the total to R20·88 crores (£13,920,000). Of this increase 85·6 per cent or R1·64 crores (£1,093,300) was contributed by **sugar** with a total of R13·17 crores (£8,780,000), which is 14·2 per cent more than in 1909-10. The imports of **wheat** dwindled to R5,000 (£333) and **rice not in the husk** to R7·85 lakhs (£52,300). **Provisions** rose to R3·03 crores (£2,020,000), the increase being R13·06 lakhs (£87,100), and **spices** rose by R25·41 lakhs (£169,400) to R1·54 crores (£1,026,700).

**Chemicals, drugs, etc.** showed a net decline of R6·49 lakhs (£43,300) which resulted from a fall of R45·68 lakhs (£304,500) under **Tobacco,** counterbalanced to a large extent by the increases under the other heads, the largest increase occurring under **mineral dyes** which moved from R87·19 lakhs (£581,300) to R102·71 lakhs (£684,700).

The growth in the imports of **oils** was maintained, the total rising by R25·77 lakhs (£171,800) to R3·61 crores (£2,406,700). This increase proceeded solely from the arrivals of **mineral oils** from the United Kingdom, Sumatra, and Russia, which showed at R3·39 crores (£2,260,000) an advance of R24·26 lakhs (£161,700), aided in part by a rise of R1·51 lakhs (£10,100) or 7·4 per cent in **other oils**.

In **Raw materials** at R4·62 crores (£3,080,000) there was a net decline of R17·65 lakhs (£117,700). This was mainly due to contractions of R2·12 lakhs (£14,100) in **precious stones**, of R14·31 lakhs (£95,400) in **raw cotton**, of R15·38 lakhs (£102,500) in **coal**, and of R12·47 lakhs (£83,100) in **raw silk**, against increases of R13·07 lakhs (£87,100) in **timber** and of R5·28 lakhs (£35,200) in **wool**.

## ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

These represent about 16·1 per cent of the total imports. The value during the last three years of the principal articles in this group has been :—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Sugar. .. . | 10,90,66,089 | = 7,271,073 | 11,52,20,492 | = 7,681,366 | 13,16,59,659 | = 8,777,311 |
| Provisions . | 2,81,32,225 | 1,875,432 | 2,89,87,575 | 1,932,505 | 3,02,93,776 | 2,019,585 |
| Liquors . . | 1,98,49,839 | 1,323,323 | 1,91,48,009 | 1,276,534 | 1,89,81,666 | 1,265,444 |
| Spices . . | 1,37,39,983 | 915,999 | 1,28,75,669 | 858,378 | 1,54,16,512 | 1,027,767 |
| Grain and pulse . | 1,23,36,409 | 822,427 | 29,96,291 | 199,753 | 14,61,742 | 97,449 |
| Salt . . . | 84,07,598 | 560,507 | 68.87,972 | 4,659,198 | 70,47,315 | 469,821 |
| Tea . . . | 21,56,304 | 143,754 | 17,57,989 | 117,119 | 20,75,074 | 138,338 |
| Fruits and Vegetables . . | 10,95,951 | 73,063 | 13,25,798 | 88,387 | 14,71,573 | 98,105 |

**Sugar** represents 63·06 per cent of the total value of imported articles of food and drink, as against 60·77 per cent in 1909-10; and it confirms yearly its position as the second article in order of importance in any class of imports The arrivals now amount to 739,000 tons and some £8·78 millions.

At the close of the previous financial year, the world's sugar prices had attained a very high level as a consequence of the shortage in the beet crop. The average price of first products beet, f. o. b, Hamburg, in the three previous years had been 10*s*. 3½*d*. per cwt. In March 1910, first products beet, f. o. b. Hamburg, stood at 14*s*. 6*d*.; and this rate advanced during the summer months to about 14*s*. 9*d*., which held good till an exceptionally large beet crop began to be foreseen in the end of August. The estimated crop of beet sugar in the three years ending 1908 had averaged 6,679,000 tons. In 1909 it was estimated at 6,138,000 tons, while that of 1910 is expected to be about 8,000,000 tons. On appearance of the new crop preliminary estimate of about 7,700,000 tons, the price went back to 11*s*. 9¾*d*. Up to that time Continental refiners dependent on beet were at a disadvantage in competition with those in England, whose fiscal system enabled them to draw supplies from the copious cane crops; and speculative holders of old crop beet in Germany incurred heavy losses on the fall which brought the rate to 9*s*. 5¼*d*. in October and to 8*s*. 11¾*d*. by the end of the calendar year. Between January and March of the current year, interest was as usual centred largely on the Cuban outturn, which is considerably below that of the previous year but above the average; and at the end of March the price of beet sugar (88 per cent Hamburg) stood at 9*s*. 9*d*.

In India one of the features of the year was the extent to which sugar from Java and Mauritius was re-exported to England and other countries during the summer months in response to the high rates then obtainable.

These re-exports amounted to 320,285 cwts and R32·41 lakhs (£216,100) as compared with 165,854 cwts and R16·56 lakhs (£110,400) in 1909-10.

The Indian cane crop gathered in the beginning of 1910 had been a good one. Though the contraction of area in that part of the crop which is recorded had proceeded at the rate of 3·4 per cent, the estimated yield showed an increase of 252,400 tons or 13·5 per cent. The good prices induced further planting in 1910, and the recorded part of the new crop is expected to give about 2,226,400 tons of unrefined sugar—an increase of 99,300 tons or 4·7 per cent. The crop in all India is probably about 2,900,000 tons, to which palm sugar must be added.

In India the prices of beet sugar were highest in the two first months of the official year, the rates being about R11-12-0 (15*s.* 8*d.*) per cwt in Calcutta and R12-10-0 (16*s.* 10*d.*) in Bombay. In Calcutta, however, R12(16*s.*) was touched in June, when prices in Bombay had begun to recede. There was no marked decline till the new crop began to come into sight in October; but, upon this, rates lapsed to R10-4-8 (13*s.* 8$\frac{2}{3}$*d.*) in Calcutta and R10-8-0 (14*s.*) in Bombay. The fall was accentuated in November and December, R9-8-5 (12*s.* 8$\frac{5}{12}$*d.*) being reached in Calcutta and R9-13-0 (13*s.* 1*d.*) in Bombay. The presence of the good internal crop at that season contributed to the weakness; and this, together with a temporary disorganisation of the distributing trade as a result of the heavy losses incurred by dealers, led to the accumulation of large sugar stocks in ports of arrival. After the opening of the new year there was a slight recovery sympathetic with the views taken in Europe regarding the shortage in Cuban supplies. The official year closed with beet at R9-14-0 (13*s.* 2*d.*) in Calcutta and R9-12-0 (13*s.*) in Bombay. The course of Java sugars was very similar, though naturally the break in their prices on the announcement of the large beet crop in the autumn was rather less marked. The opening rates were R11-9-9 (15*s.* 5$\frac{3}{4}$*d.*) in Calcutta and R12-10-0 (16*s.* 10*d.*) in Bombay; and while June showed a rise in the former, there was a decline in the latter. The prices before the collapse were R11-6-5 (15*s.* 2$\frac{5}{12}$*d.*) and R11-11-0 (15*s.* 7*d.*) in September. By November they were at R9-8-5 (12*s.* 8$\frac{5}{12}$*d.*) and R9-12-0 (13*s.*); and the official year closed at R9-12-6 (13*s.* 0$\frac{1}{2}$*d.*) and R9-10-0 (12*s.* 10*d.*) respectively. Mauritius sugar No. 1 in Bombay was at R12 (16*s.*) in April 1910, declined on arrivals to R11-6-0 (15*s.* 2*d.*) in August, broke to R10-8-0 (14*s.*) in September, R9-12-0 (13*s.*) in October, and R9-8-0 (12*s.* 8*d.*) in November and closed the year at this rate.

The arrivals of beet and of cane sugar in each of the last five years are shown in the following statement (**in cwts**). These statistics assign shipments to the countries in which the sugar was produced.

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Cane*— | | | | | |
| From Mauritius | 2,310,177 | 2,600,193 | 2,514,440 | 2,435,560 | 2,923,983 |
| „ Reunion | 109,090 | 23,587 | 19,505 | ... | ... |
| „ China | 5,423 | 7,340 | 6,384 | 22,095 | 129,363 |
| „ Java | 3,467,358 | 6,593,669 | 6,172,039 | 7,815,015 | 8,758,715 |
| „ Straits Settlements | 6,132 | 11,787 | 804 | 3,113 | 962 |
| „ Other countries | 28,668 | 14,265 | 6,087 | 1,114 | 1,164 |
| TOTAL | 5,926,848 | 9,250,841 | 8,719,259 | 10,276,897 | 11,814,187 |
| *Beet*— | | | | | |
| From Austria-Hungary | 2,016,803 | 730,265 | 1,918,158 | 782,773 | 714,093 |
| „ Germany | 1,657,679 | 51,879 | 3,071 | 51,538 | 8,206 |
| „ Belgium | 104,104 | 1,302 | 988 | 1,474 | 1,139 |
| „ France | 23,826 | 9,782 | 472 | 306 | 444 |
| „ Other countries | 1,422 | 832 | 21,335 | 23,096 | 1,076 |
| TOTAL | 3,803,834 | 794,060 | 1,944,024 | 859,187 | 724,958 |
| Total Sugar, excluding molasses and confectionery | 9,730,682 | 10,044,901 | 10,663,283 | 11,136,084 | 12,539,145 |
| Value R | 8,18,28,277 | 8,79,19,287 | 10,40,97,056 | 10,97,82,740 | 12,44,23,125 |
| Value =£ | 5,455,218 | 5,861,286 | 6,939,804 | 7,318,849 | 8,294,875 |

The chief sources of cane sugar are Java and Mauritius, while in respect of beet sugar Austria has uniformly retained the first place.

Accepting the estimate of the available cane sugar of all India at 2,933,100 tons, we may regard her as the largest single producer and her share in the world's total cane sugar as 34 per cent. Cane sugar—India's included—represents about 52 per cent of the world's total sugar supply; yet India buys about 9·9 per cent of the cane sugar external to India, and cane sugar forms 91 per cent of the sugar imports into this country. These facts are so striking that it is well to show here the yearly progress in each of the two classes absolutely and in relation to the total.

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Beet | Cane | Total | Beet | Cane | Total | Beet | Cane | Total |
| Percentage of total quantity . . | 18·2 | 81·8 | 100 | 7·7 | 92·3 | 100 | 5·8 | 94·2 | 100 |
| Percentage of total value | 18·9 | 81·1 | 100 | 8·4 | 91·6 | 100 | 6·0 | 94·0 | 100 |
| Increase (+) or decrease (—) in total quantity . | +145 | —5·7 | +6·1 | —55·8 | +17·8 | +4·4 | —15·6 | +14·9 | +12·6 |
| Increase (+) or decrease (—) in total value . | +162 | +4·9 | +18·4 | —54·2 | +19·4 | 5·5 | —17·7 | +16·1 | +13·3 |
| Average value per cwt ₹ | 10·15 | 9·68 | 9·76 | 10·5 | 9·8 | 9·86 | 10·25 | 9·9 | 9·92 |
| = *S.* | 13·53 | 12·9 | 13 | 14·0 | 13·0 | 13·15 | 13·7 | 13·2 | 13·23 |

In the three years ending 1905-06 cane represented 71·9 per cent of the total and beet 28·1 per cent.

The imports of **sugar of both kinds** together expanded by a further 1,403,000 cwts and by ₹146·4 lakhs (£976,000). The increases were thus 12·6 per cent in quantity and 13·3 per cent in value, marking a rise of ·7 per cent in the average value per unit.

The imports of **cane sugar** expanded by 1,537,300 cwts or 14·9 per cent, and in consequence of a rise of some 1 per cent in the specific value, the total value showed an improvement of ₹162·35 lakhs (£1,082,300) or 16·1 per cent. The greater part of the increase in quantity is traceable to the expansion in the shipments from Java and Mauritius to India.

**Beet sugar** showed a decline of 134,229 cwts or 15·6 per cent in quantity and of ₹15·94 lakhs (£106,300) or 17·7 per cent in value, marking thereby a decrease of 2·4 per cent in specific value.

In **refined sugar,** Java greatly surpasses any other source of supply. Her aggregate was 8,357,457 cwts as against 7,510,561 cwts in 1909-10; and Mauritius, another cane country, came second with 2,906,765 cwts against 2,414,097 cwts in 1909-10. Austria, though taking the first place as a source of beet, comes third in refined sugar with 704,714 cwts, while Germany's contribution was only 9,972 cwts. Three years ago refined sugar formed 88 per cent of the imports from Java. Now it forms 91 per cent; and this is in keeping with the remarkable trend towards superior sugars shown by the Java industry in recent years.

The power of India to absorb immense quantities of crystallised sugar, in addition to the cruder sugar of her own production, becomes increasingly striking year by year. The year under review has established a fresh record not only in total quantity but in the measure of increase That this should have occurred in a year of abnormally high prices shows that the demand for crystallised sugar is strong. It suggests a degree of preference that may well account for the continuous decline in the acreage under cane in this country. Ten years ago imported sugar formed only 5·9 per cent of India's sugar supply: now it forms more than 20 per cent of it. Average imports in the three years ending 1899-1900 represented only 1·96 lbs

and annas 2·82 per head of the population. In 1910-11 they represent 6·79 lbs and annas 8·64 per head. It is important to ascertain whether this large increase in imports has been associated with decline in internal production. In the three years ending 1899-1900 the total imports of sugar averaged 200,800 tons. In the three years ending 1909-10 they averaged 597,800 tons, the increase being 397,000 tons. In the same period the acreage of sugar in recorded tracts of British India has declined on such a scale that the available sugar from these limited sources has fallen by about 409,000 tons. It is impossible to say whether the approximation of these two figures is fortuitous or how far or in what sense the two phenomena are related as cause and effect. But as time goes on the conviction gains ground that the decline in Indian cultivation is real and continuous, and that there is probably a nexus between it and the growth of imports. Price records show that in sixteen years the prices of foodstuffs in India have risen by 32 per cent. The price of Indian crude sugar known as *gur* has risen only 26 per cent. In other words sugar has not fully shared in the appreciation of other foodstuffs, and it is difficult to dissociate this fact from the circumstance that the world's price of, say, Java sugar has declined in the same period by 25 per cent. It is recognised in the first place that the sparse distribution and defective cultivation of cane in India together with the petty scale and inefficient methods of the indigenous industry are the antitheses of the practice, exemplified by the "central factories" that have been gradually adopted in competing countries, and in the second place that they result in losses possibly sufficient to account for the discrepancy of cost. The creation of a centralised industry in Formosa in a few years has been watched closely, and the year under review saw the realization of the result foreshadowed in the Review for 1908-09, namely, the saturation of the Japan markets with Formosan sugar and the diversion towards India of the Java sugar that formerly went to Japan. The problem of saving the threatened Indian industry is attracting attention. The Government of India are, considering the expediency of employing an eminent expert or experts to report upon the question.

**Provisions**—This term, as applied to foreign merchandise, covers a number of heads, and several of these are of a very comprehensive character, though representing small amounts. The total value is R302·94 lakhs (£2,019,600) as against R289·88 lakhs (£1,932,500) in 1909-10. This represents 14·5 per cent of the value of all articles of food and drink imported, and shows an increase of R13·06 lakhs (£87,100) or 4·5 per cent. **Dried fruits** consist mainly of almonds and dates, but comprise many other fruits imported in small quantities. The total of dried fruits is R94·48 lakhs (£629,900) as against R85·44 lakhs (£569,600) in 1909-10. The largest single item is **dates**, which has progressed in total value from R54·8 lakhs (£365,300) to R61·08 lakhs (£407,200), but there was a small decline in quantity recouped by a rise of 11·5 per cent in the specific value. **Almonds** show a recovery of R2·66 lakhs (£17,700) from R19·91 lakhs (£132,700) to R22·57 lakhs (£150,500). The trade in **salted fish**, which aggregated R26·97 lakhs (£179,800) in 1909-10, declined to R17·69 lakhs (£117,900) in the year under review; and the continuous development in the importation of **biscuits** was maintained with a rise from R28·15 lakhs (£187,700) to R32·48 lakhs (£216,500). Other important items which show progressive trade are **canned provisions** and **farinaceous foods**, each of which exceeds R33 lakhs (£220,000), and **preserved milk** with a value of R26·49 lakhs (£176,600). The comprehensive category of "**other sorts**", which had risen in 1909-10 from R38·26 lakhs (£255,100) to

R41·91 lakhs (£279,400), developed again to R45·11 lakhs (£300,700), the further progress being one of 7·6 per cent.

**Liquors** are statistically distinguished as malt liquors, spirits, and wines. The last year has seen a small recovery in malt liquors which constitute the first class in volume but the second in value. In spirits there were declines both in quantity and value, while the quantitative decrease in wines was attended by a small rise in value. The following statement summarises the trade of the last three years:

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | gallons | R | £ | gallons | R | £ | gallons | R | £ |
| Malt liquors . | 4,307,153 | 58,50,910= | 390,061 | 4,193,714 | 54,73,476= | 364,899 | 4,254,339 | 55,46,898= | 369,793 |
| Spirits . . | 1,681,885 | 1,12,68,228 | 751,215 | 1,694,125 | 1,10,29,727 | 735,315 | 1,537,145 | 1,07,31,294 | 715,420 |
| Wines . . | 337,724 | 27,30,701 | 182,047 | 338,501 | 26,44,806 | 176,320 | 331,514 | 27,03,474 | 180,232 |

The total value, R189·82 lakhs (£1,265,500), represents 9 per cent of the imports of articles of food and drink, and is less by R1·66 lakhs (£11,100) than in 1909-10.

In **Malt-liquors** the expansion of 1·1 per cent is common to quantity and value. From the United Kingdom came 88·8 per cent of the whole, as against 89 per cent in 1909-10; while the share of Germany rose from 9·4 to 9·8 per cent with an increase of 5 per cent in her total quantity; and other foreign countries supplied 1·4 per cent in place of 1·6 per cent.

These import figures do not represent the consumption of malt liquors in India, seeing that in 1910 Indian breweries produced 4,191,493 gallons against 4,824,050 gallons in 1909. This marks a decline of 632,557 gallons in Indian production and brings the total decline in the last five years to 1,408,437 gallons or 25·1 per cent.

The factor of indigenous production is even more dominant in respect of **spirits**. The following statement shows the totals in gallons of all spirits including liqueurs and methylated and perfumed spirits, imported from the several countries in the last three years; and, below the totals, are noted the quantities of spirit issued from Indian distilleries.

| | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|
| From United Kingdom . | 841,733 | 810,515 | 803,898 |
| „ France . . . | 297,497 | 301,651 | 290,871 |
| „ Germany . . . | 161,071 | 150,003 | 129,355 |
| „ Other countries . | 381,584 | 431,956 | 313,021 |
| TOTAL . | 1,681,885 | 1,694,125 | 1,537,145 |
| Issued from Indian distilleries . | 8,389,989 | 9,920,603 | 9,686,290 |

But in 1906-07 the total imports were 1,488,361 gallons with a value of R98·69 lakhs (£657,900), so it cannot be said that the contraction in the year under review is due to the enhancement of the import duty under the Act of 1906. The contractions of 156,980 gallons in quantity and of R2·98 lakhs (£19,900) in value are equivalent to 9·3 per cent and 2·7 per cent, respectively, and the difference marks an advance of 7 per cent in the specific value exclusive of duty.

The quantities of the principal descriptions of potable spirits imported were (in gallons) :—

| | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Whisky . . . . | 681,401 | 644,946 | 638,342 |
| Brandy . . . . | 376,475 | 374,210 | 358,815 |
| Gin . . . . | 84,160 | 80,811 | 72,185 |
| Rum . . . . | 64,144 | 69,479 | 39,306 |
| Other sorts . . . | 174,731 | 160,634 | 106,121 |
| TOTAL . | 1,380,911 | 1,330,080 | 1,214,769 |

The potable spirits of "other sorts" are chiefly potato spirits from Germany (34,108 gallons), sundry spirits from the United Kingdom (11,992 gallons), rum from Java (8,189 gallons) and China (9,385 gallons), and arrack from Ceylon (6,472 gallons).

The total quantity and value of wines imported were 331,514 gallons and R27·03 lakhs (£180,200) as against 338,501 gallons and R26·45 lakhs (£176,300) in 1909-10. Thus there was a contraction of 6,987 gallons or 2 per cent in quantity, but the value advanced by 2 per cent, marking thereby an improvement of 4·6 per cent in the average value, which is now R8-2-6 (10*s.* 10½*d.*) instead of R7-12-6 (10*s.* 10*d.*) per gallon in 1909-10.

The growth in the **Imports of spices** is well maintained and amounts to some 14·4 per cent in quantity and 19·7 per cent in total value, which now stands at R154·17 lakhs (£1,027,800). **Betelnuts,** with a quantity of 62,633 tons as against 54,521 tons in 1909-10, showed a value of R107·82 lakhs (£718,800), which is higher by 22·5 per cent than in 1909-10. Of this article 88·5 per cent came from the Straits Settlements, 64·5 per cent being landed in Calcutta and 19·5 per cent in Madras. The trade in **Cloves** which come principally from Zanzibar, declined from 3,762 tons valued at R24·19 lakhs (£161,300) to 3,247 tons valued at R22·05 lakhs (£147,000). This represented a decline of 13·7 per cent in quantity and 9 per cent in value, attended by an increase of 5·6 per cent in specific value.

**Grain and pulse**—Imports under this head are usually indicative of the degree of shortage in Indian crops; and the decline apparent in the figures for the past year as shown below is a matter for congratulation :—

| | 1908-09 Tons | 1909-10 Tons | 1910-11 Tons |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rice . . . . . | 32,739 | 13,679 | 6,266 |
| Wheat . . . . | 28,948 | 389 | 50 |
| „ flour . . . . | 6,651 | 2,371 | 2,891 |
| Pulse . . . . . | 20,827 | 4,240 | 1,057 |
| Gram . . . . . | 133 | 57 | 28 |
| Barley . . . . . | 2 | 3 | 13 |
| Jáwar and bájra . . . | 443 | 248 | 121 |
| Oats . . . . . | 181 | 3,442 | 667 |
| Other sorts . . . . | 5,476 | 345 | 63 |
| Total . | 95,400 | 24,774 | 11,156 |

The total imports decreased from 24,774 tons valued at R29·96 lakhs (£199,700) to 11,156 tons valued at R14·62 lakhs (£97,500). The most noticeable decreases are under **rice not in the husk:** from 13,170 tons and R16·69 lakhs (£111,300) to 6,242 tons and R7·85 lakhs (£52,300), **oats:** from 3,442 tons and R3·53 lakhs (£23,500) to 667 tons and R69,400 (£4,600), and **pulse:** from 4,240 tons and R4·15 lakhs (£27,700) to 1,057 tons and R1·18 lakhs £7,900).

**Rice** was imported chiefly from the Straits Settlements, the receipts from that source amounting to 6,175 tons as compared with 9,496 tons in the previous year. Imports of **pulse** became almost negligible. The following statement shows the imports of the principal kinds of grain and pulse into Bengal and into Bombay during the last two years, **in tons** —

| | Into Bengal | | Into Bombay | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1909-10 | 1910-11 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
| Rice . . . . | 391 | 45 | 11,615 | 6,096 |
| Wheat . . . . | 8 | 7 | 378 | 25 |
| Pulse . . . . | 1,922 | 17 | 1,404 | 487 |

**Salt** represents 3·4 per cent of the value of articles of food and drink imported. The quantity and value have been as follows in the last five years :—

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Quantity tons | 467,949 | 558,684 | 588,387 | 498,448 | 480,775 |
| Value (unit Rs. 1,000) | 66,77 | 80,21 | 84,07 | 68,88 | 70,47 |
| Sterling (,, £ 1,000) | 4,45 | 5,35 | 5,60 | 4,59 | 4,70 |

Thus in 1910-11 the decrease in quantity was one of 17, 673 tons or 3·5 per cent, while the value showed an advance of R1·59 lakhs (£10,600) or 2·3 per cent. This difference marks an advance of 6 per cent in the value per unit.

The duty on salt, which for provinces other than Burma was Rs 2-8-0 (3*s.* 4*d.*) per maund up to 1902-03 (Burma having always enjoyed the rate of Re. 1 (1*s.* 4*d.*) now universal in India,) was in that year reduced to Rs. 2 (2*s.* 8*d.*) and consumption grew by 3 per cent to 1,346,830 tons. In 1903-04, although the duty remained unchanged, the consumption grew by 2·6 per cent, and in 1904-05 it advanced by 4 per cent on reduction of the duty to Rs. 1-8-0 (2*s.*) In 1905-06 no further reduction was made, and the consumption receded by 1·4 per cent. In 1906-07 the present rate of Re. 1 (1*s.* 4*d.*) per maund was adopted, and the following figures show the increases since that date :— 1906-07, +5 per cent to 1,488,635 tons; 1907-08, +4 per cent to 1,547,601 tons; 1908-09, +2 per cent to 1,580,230 tons; 1909-10, +·5 per cent to 1,588,356 tons; 1910-11 (estimated), +6 per cent to 1,676,769 tons.

The year's trade has been good, and prices of Liverpool salt ex-warehouse in Calcutta have averaged about Rs. 45-6-8 per 100 maunds ($9\frac{11}{12}d.$ per cwt) as against Rs. 39-1-4 ($8\frac{1}{2}$d per cwt) in the previous year. The quotation was Rs. 38 (£2 10*s.* 8*d.*) in April 1910, Rs. 48 (£3 4*s.*) in June, Rs. 47 (£3 2*s.* 8*d.*) in August and in October, Rs. 49 (£3 5*s.* 4*d.*) in December and January, and Rs. 43 (£2 17*s.* 4*d.*) in March—this being the rate that was in force in April 1909.

The year was remarkable for the discovery and flotation of a new process of salt manufacture of which great things are expected in spite of the large improvements and economies recently made in ordinary methods of production.

**Tea**—The imports of tea advanced from 3,679,587 lbs to 4,625,327 lbs in quantity and from R17·58 lakhs (£117,200) to R20·75 lakhs (£138,300) in value. The increase is therefore one of 25·7 per cent in quantity and 18 per cent in value. This marks a fall of 6·2 per cent in the average value per unit, which was 7 annas 3 pies ($7\frac{1}{4}d$) per lb. The total increase was derived from China, her contribution rising from 1,523,966 lbs to 2,518,021 lbs or 65·2 per cent. Of this 1,489,541 lbs were green tea which showed an expansion of

about 27 per cent. Black tea also increased by 192 per cent to 1,028,480 lbs. Shipments from Ceylon, on the other hand, declined by 217,638 lbs or 14·8 per cent to 1,250,263 lbs. Estimates of re-exportation must be taken with some reserve, for it is known that, more especially on the land routes, foreign tea is not always accurately distinguished from Indian tea. But if the figures be accepted as correct, 667,306 lbs were re-exported by sea and 178,080 lbs by land, making a total of 845,386 lbs of which 96 per cent was black tea. On the average of the last five years, it would appear that some 5·66 million lbs of foreign tea are yearly retained for consumption in India.

**Fruits and vegetables**—The total value of this trade is R14·72 lakhs (£98,100) as against R13·26 lakhs (£88,400) in 1909-10. **Cocoanuts** declined from R5·24 lakhs (£34,900) to R4·86 lakhs (£32,400); while **Copra**—which is strictly a raw material for the oil industry and from which butter substitutes are now being made in Southern India—dropped to R13,500 (£900) from R1·03 lakhs (£6,900). **Other sorts** expanded from R6·99 lakhs (£46,600) to R9·72 lakhs (£64,800).

## METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS

**Hardware and cutlery** form 12·5 per cent of the total value of imports of metals and manufactures of metals. From the following statement it will appear that their value has advanced by R58·05 lakhs (£387,000) or 21 per cent:—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Cutlery | 17,51,714 = | 116,781 | 14,77,396 = | 98,493 | 21,23,140 = | 141,543 |
| Agricultural implements | 9,96 489 | 66,433 | 9,16,850 | 61,123 | 10,26,347 | 68,423 |
| Other implements and tools | 19,97,750 | 133,183 | 19,85,158 | 132,344 | 23,78,513 | 158,568 |
| Enamelled ironware | 18,90,3 71 | 120,025 | 12,85,946 | 85,730 | 19,02,751 | 126,850 |
| Sewing machines | 12,20,501 | 81,367 | 15,41,673 | 102,778 | 23,90,917 | 159,394 |
| Unspecified hardware | 2,14,91,357 | 1,432,757 | 2,04,57,451 | 1,363,830 | 2,36,47,445 | 1,576,496 |
| TOTAL | 2,92,58,182 | 1,950,546 | 2,76,64,474 | 1,844,298 | 3,34,69,113 | 2,231,274 |

The heading comprises articles of so heterogeneous a nature that it is impossible to show briefly in what measure any general variation in the specific value of metal articles has contributed to the fluctuation in the statistics. **Enamelled ironware** is an item of peculiar interest as it is a substitute for the distinctive Indian vessels of copper and brass. During the years when the prices of these metals were very high, the importation of enamelled ware made great progress, and in 1907-08 the total value rose to R24·49 lakhs (£163,200). But the popular preference for the more familiar material reposes partly on certain ritual observances of cleanliness, and it was marked by the prompt contraction in the imports of enamelled ware in 1908-09 when copper had returned to a more normal level. That contraction continued in 1909-10, but in 1910-11 the upward movement was resumed, and the total value rose by R6·17 lakhs (£41,100) or 48 per cent to R19·03 lakhs (£126,900). It will be seen elsewhere that this was accompanied by an increase of 40 per cent in the imports of wrought copper. Austria occupies the premier place in the trade in enamelled ware, and has done 74·9 per cent of the whole business instead of 68·7 per cent in 1909-10. Germany holds the second place and with 13·3 per cent in place of 19·2 per cent in 1909-10. **Sewing machines** now constitute the largest homogeneous item in this class of imports and their value advanced by R8·49 lakhs (£56,600) or 55 per cent. The value of

**Agricultural implements** is still short of the level at which it stood three years ago, but it shows a gain of R1·09 lakhs (£7,300) or 11·9 per cent on the figure for 1909-10, while **Other implements and tools** have established a record with an increase of R3·93 lakhs (£26,200) or 19·8 per cent. The progress in **Cutlery** amounts to 43·7 per cent or R6·46 lakhs (£43,100); and the R31·9 lakhs (£21,300) by which the value of **unspecified hardware** has developed is 15·6 per cent of the previous year's figures. This residual heading covers **lampware.** This now has a value of R34·03 lakhs (£226,900) which exceeds the R27·77 lakhs (£185,100) of the previous year by R6·26 lakhs (£41,700) or 22·5 per cent. The growth in this item, like that in enamelled ware, indicates a certain departure from traditional practice among the people. The superiority, cheapness, and wide distribution of kerosene have led to an almost general abandonment of vegetable illuminants, and it seems probable that a trade might now be created in cooking lamps costing about R2 (2*s.* 8*d.*). Much of the cooking by the common people in India is done with dried cow-dung as fuel. This leads to the destruction of manure, the preservation of which becomes increasingly important, and it is stated by persons in daily touch with the agricultural classes that the people themselves are not blind to the waste involved. But so far no suitable cooking lamp seems to have been put successfully on the market.

The share of the **United Kingdom** in Hardware and cutlery trade, while showing centesimally a decline from 65·6 per cent to 60 per cent of the total, advanced absolutely by R19·33 lakhs (£128,900) or 10·7 per cent to R200·76 lakhs (£133,800). **Germany's** share improved relatively from 13·2 per cent to 14·3 per cent of the total and absolutely by R11·6 lakhs (£77,300) or 31·8 per cent to R48·03 lakhs (£320,200). Although greater accuracy has been attained in ascribing goods to their countries of origin, it is probable that part of the shipments from **Belgium** really emanated from Germany. The two countries conjointly showed a share of 22 per cent as compared with 19 per cent in 1909-10, and their total advanced by R21·41 lakhs (£142,700) to R73·74 lakhs (£491,600). **Austria-Hungary,** on the other hand, increased her share by 45·9 per cent or R7·87 lakhs (£52,500) to R25·04 lakhs (£166,900), and now does 7·5 per cent of the total. **The United States of America** accounts for R21·71 lakhs (£144,700) and shows an increase of R4·31 lakhs (£28,700) or 24·8 per cent over its contribution in 1909-10. Its share to the total represents 6·5 per cent as against 6·3 per cent. in the previous year.

**Metals** represent 11·2 per cent of the total value of imported merchandise. In 1909-10 the quantity had fallen to 644,730 tons and the value to R12·77 crores (£8,513,300). In the year now under review the quantity advanced to 696,727 tons (*i.e.*, by 8 per cent), and the total value rose to R14·49 crores (£9,660,000) or by 13·5 per cent, together with a rise of 5 per cent in the specific value per ton. The figures are the largest on record. The rise in specific value is accounted for by the fact that development took place mainly in metals of relatively high value. Indeed most of the increase of R172 lakhs (£1,146,700) was contributed by copper which showed figures greater by R107 lakhs (£713,500). Tin showed an increase of R1·25 lakhs (£83,300) and quicksliver brought in another increment of R2·38 lakhs (£15,900). The total quantity and value of iron remained little changed, but steel showed a gain of R60 lakhs (£400,000).

**Copper** represents about 25·6 per cent of the total value of imports of metal in 1910-11, against 20·7 per cent in 1909-10, 21 per cent in 1908-09, 15·6 per cent in 1907-08, and 13·8 per cent in 1906-07. The commodity is one of peculiar importance in India since most of the domestic vessels of the people are made of copper or brass, and departure from this usage is rendered difficult by certain ritual observances of cleanliness. With a world's production increased by 11 per cent and 1·6 per cent in successive years, bringing the total to 852,950 tons in 1910 against 839,425 tons in 1909, with the sources of supply supplemented by new discoveries, with disturbed trade conditions and a flagging demand, more particularly in the United States, the price of standard copper, which touched £111 in 1907, has, during the year under review, remained at normal levels. In London it recorded an average of £57 3*s.* 3*d.* per ton against £58 17*s.* 3*d.* in 1909 and £60 0*s.* 5*d.* in 1908; and probably the fall would have been greater but for constant rumours of agreements to reduce production. Standard copper (cash) was sold in London at £62 1*s.* 3*d.* at the beginning of January 1910, but this rate was not seen again, while the lowest rate accepted was £52 15*s.* done on July 12th. The calendar year closed with £56 1*s.* 3*d.* and the Indian year with £54 8*s.* 9*d.* The prices of copper braziers during the year 1910-11 averaged R53-11-8 (£3 11*s.* 7⅔*d.*) per cwt in Bombay, in place of R55-14-0 (£3 14*s.* 6*d.*) in the previous year; and in Calcutta the averages have been:—1909-10, R51-11-7 (£3 9*s.*) and 1910-11, R51-8-2 (£3 8*s.* 8¼*d.*). The figures appear to confirm the opinion hazarded in the review for 1908-09 that the price levels then reached were about normal; and the imports of the yellow metals, which during the period of inflated prices were to some extent displaced by enamelled ware, now resume their function as one of the gauges of Indian prosperity. The imports amounted to 732,914 cwts with a value of R371 lakhs (£2,473,100) as compared with the previous year figures of 506,599 cwts and R264·35 lakhs (£1,762,300). There has thus been an increase of 44·6 per cent in the quantity of copper imported and one of 40·3 per cent in the value, the difference between these rates indicating a fall of 3 per cent in the average value per unit. **Wrought copper** represents 86·8 per cent of the total quantity of copper imported, and it accounted for 86 per cent of the entire growth in the trade. It increased by 44 per cent in quantity and by 40 per cent in value, the fall in specific value here agreeing nearly with that for all copper. The actual figures are 636,084 cwts with a value of R323·97 lakhs (£2,159,800) as compared with 441,615 cwts and R231·96 lakhs (£1,546,400) in 1909-10. **Unwrought copper** advanced by 49 per cent in quantity and by 45 per cent in value, the average value having fallen from R49·93 (£3 6*s.* 7*d.*) to R48·53 (£3 4*s.* 8*d.*) per cwt. Copper ore exists in several parts of India but the production continues negligible.

**Brass**—The quantity of brass imported is only equal to about 2·5 per cent of the quantity of copper imported. The imports of brass advanced from 16,800 cwts to 18,593 cwts and from R9·33 lakhs (£62,200) to R10·51 lakhs (£70,100), the increase being one of 1,793 cwts or 10·7 per cent in quantity and of R1·18 lakhs (£7,900) or 12·7 per cent in value, due in part to a rise of 1·8 per cent in the specific value per unit. The greater increase in the figures relating to copper seems to indicate a continuance of the people's preference for the latter.

**Iron and Steel**—The year under review disappointed makers of iron and steel, but was better than 1908 or 1909. Good expectations were formed at the beginning of 1910, and in that year prices touched their highest in January. But before the Indian official year had opened, it was realised that there was something wrong with the American revival, and rates began to flag. The slackness of business in the United States and the abortiveness of the demand for Cleveland iron from that quarter contributed to the depression. The calendar year saw large additions to stocks of Cleveland iron, and these in December were estimated at about 520,000 tons. One of the most important constituents of the iron and steel trade,—and a valuable gauge of trade activity as a whole—is shipbuilding; and it is worthy of notice that whereas the average addition to tonnage (excluding warships) in the United Kingdom in the ten years 1898 to 1907 was 1,466,397 tons, it dropped in 1908 to 929,669 tons and in the last two years has stood at 991,066 and 1,143,169 tons respectively. In 1910 the shipbuilding industry was deranged by the boiler-makers' dispute which lasted from September to December; but at the end of the year the tonnage under construction was greater by 218,129 tons (24 per cent) than at the end of 1909, a feature of the new business being extended construction of tank steamers in anticipation of expansion in the bulk oil trade.

In the early months of 1911 there has been an improvement; and some branches of business are really active. The world's production of pig iron in 1910 has been estimated at 65 million tons as against 60,336,000 tons in 1909. The extent of expansion in the three principal countries may be seen from the following statement (in tons) :—

| | 1908 | 1909 | 1910 |
|---|---|---|---|
| United States . . | 15,936,000 | 25,795,471 | 27,298,545 |
| Germany . . . | 11,813,500 | 12,049,834 | 13,698,638 |
| United Kingdom . . | 9,300,000 | 9,672,369 | 9,800,000* |
| Total . | 37,049,500 | 47,517,674 | 50,797,183 |

The price of **Cleveland warrants** in the United Kingdom averaged 50*s.* $5\frac{3}{8}$*d.* per ton in 1910 against 49*s.* $4\frac{5}{8}$*d.* in 1909. In April 1910 the price was 51*s.* $7\frac{1}{2}$*d.* It fell to 49*s.* in July, recovered to 50*s.* in September, and closed at 48*s.* $10\frac{1}{2}$*d.* The average export value (f. o. b.) of pig iron for the year was 68*s.* 2*d.* as against 64*s.* 7*d.* in 1909.

The price of **Iron bars** (**Swedish rolled**) in Calcutta averaged R8-11-8 (11*s.* $7\frac{2}{3}$*d.*) per cwt in 1910-11 against R8-10-0 (11*s.* 6*d.*) in 1909-10, the rates having stood at R8-12-0 (11*s.* 8*d.*) for the greater part of the year.

The following statement shows the total quantities and values of the **imports** of iron and steel distinctly and conjointly in each of the last five years (*Unit=1,000*) :—

| | Iron | | | Steel | | | Total | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | R | £ | Tons | R | £ | Tons | R | £ |
| 1906-07 . | 261 | 4,31,83= | 2,879 | 262 | 3,24,99= | 2,167 | 523 | 7,56,82= | 5,046 |
| 1907-08 . | 276 | 4,96,69 | 3,311 | 341 | 4,78,47 | 3,190 | 617 | 9,75,16 | 6,501 |
| 1908-09 . | 262 | 4,75,94 | 3,173 | 349 | 4,28,45 | 2,856 | 611 | 9,04,39 | 6,029 |
| 1909-10 . | 282 | 4,96,89 | 3,313 | 320 | 3,87,20 | 2,581 | 602 | 8,84,09 | 5,894 |
| 1910-11 . | 280 | 4,96,78 | 3,312 | 363 | 4,47,58 | 2,984 | 643 | 9,44,36 | 6,296 |

It becomes increasingly difficult to distinguish iron from steel in certain lines of goods, and their separation has the disadvantage of obscuring the

* Estimated.

statistics regarding the trade as a whole in specific articles made alternatively of either substance. But the particulars as stated above show iron to have exceeded steel by ₹49·2 lakhs (£328,000), though its quantity was smaller by 33,000 tons. The imports of **iron** declined by 2,443 tons in quantity (about 1 per cent) and by ₹11,326 (£755) only in value (·02 per cent), while **steel** rose in quantity by 43,110 tons (13·5 per cent) and in value by ₹60·39 lakhs (£402,600) equal to 15·6 per cent. The share of iron in the total values of the last three years has been 53 per cent, 56 per cent, and 53 per cent.

In a class of goods so composite and comprehensive, it is not permissible to assume that the quantitative relations of one description to another are constant or that the price movements of the various descriptions are uniform. For this reason there would be little real use in bringing out the variations in the average value per cwt of total arrivals.

From the statement below it will be seen that the share of the **United Kingdom** in the total quantity of the trade fell from 61·4 per cent to 59·9 per cent, and this in spite of the fact that she increased her shipments from 370,064 tons to 385,155 tons. In iron the figures receded from 222,977 to 216,372 tons but in steel there was an expansion from 147,087 to 168,783 tons. **Germany and Belgium**, on the other hand, supplied 228,782 tons in all, against 209,202 tons in 1909-10, and while their steel shipments advanced from 166,886 to 182,576 tons, those in iron also developed from 42,316 to 46,206 tons. It may be explained that Germany and Belgium are bracketed because considerable quantities of Germany's products are shipped from Belgium, and that it is not yet possible to assign exactly to each source such proportion of the trade as is derived from it.

| | Total | | | United Kingdom | | | Germany and Belgium | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| UNIT 1 TON | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total | Iron | Steel | Total |
| Bars . . . | 30,359 | 121,663 | 152,012 | 5,318 | 12,821 | 18,139 | 24,018 | 108 299 | 32,317 |
| Sheets and plates . | 2,013 | 85,353 | 87,366 | 421 | 53,669 | 54,090 | 1,586 | 31,451 | 33,037 |
| Sheets and plates, galvanised . | 127,477 | ... | 127,477 | 124,760 | ... | 124,760 | 587 | ... | 587 |
| ,, tinned . | 19,443 | ... | 19,443 | 19,427 | ... | 19,427 | 4 | ... | 4 |
| Hoop . . . | 3,303 | 24,637 | 27,940 | 1,689 | 16,655 | 18,344 | 1,607 | 2,639 | 4,246 |
| Angle, bolt, and rod. | 2,371 | ... | 2,371 | 433 | ... | 433 | 1,881 | ... | 1,881 |
| Angle, channel . | ... | 27,162 | 27,162 | ... | 17,063 | 17,063 | ... | 10,099 | 10,099 |
| Beams, etc. . . | 4,946 | 64,681 | 69,627 | 4,462 | 46,416 | 50,878 | 346 | 18,263 | 18,609 |
| Pipes and tubes . | 33,929 | ... | 33,929 | 28,630 | ... | 28,630 | 139 | ... | 139 |
| Nails, etc. . . | 18,761 | ... | 18,761 | 3,733 | ... | 3,733 | 8,929 | ... | 8,929 |
| Other sorts . . | 37,441 | 39,422 | 76,863 | 27,499 | 22,159 | 49,658 | 7,109 | 11,825 | 18,934 |
| Total for 1910-11 . | 280,043 | 362,908 | 642,951 | 216,372 | 168,783 | 385,155 | 46,206 | 182,576 | 228,782 |
| Total for 1909-10 . | 282,485 | 319,799 | 602,284 | 222,977 | 147,087 | 370,064 | 42,316 | 166,886 | 209,202 |

**Bars**, of which four-fifths are steel, constitute the largest item; and of this Germany and Belgium between them do about 87 per cent. In this article there was an increase of 23,151 tons or 18 per cent. **Sheets and plates** are mainly of steel, and the development here is one of 895 tons. But this is more than accounted for by the addition of 8,673 tons in the shipments from the United Kingdom, the difference of 7,633 tons having come out of the share of Germany and Belgium. The value per cwt of sheets and plates imported from Germany and Belgium rose from ₹5-8-2 (7*s.* 4⅛*d.*) in 1909-10

to R5-10-0 (7*s.* 6*d.*) and the average value of British sheets improved from R8-8-4 (11*s.* 4½*d.*) to R8-11-9 (11*s.* 7¾*d.*). **Galvanised sheets** is the item of next importance; and, as it relates to a branch of manufacture which has been singularly prosperous in 1910, it is interesting to find that it shows an advance of 3,100 tons or 2½ per cent. Most of this trade is done by the United Kingdom and emanates from a small and well organized group of manufacturers; but Germany and Belgium, which two years ago contributed 2,044 tons and raised their total to 2,853 tons in 1909-10, sent only 587 tons in the year under review. In **tinned plates,** which are also the product of a very prosperous British industry, the United Kingdom continues to have its own way; and the total shows an improvement of 1,187 tons. Comparison of the rates of progress in quantity and in value points to a growth of 8·4 per cent in specific value. **Beams, etc.** show an advance of 7,582 tons; and here the United Kingdom records an advance of 5,947 tons, and Germany and Belgium of 1,568 tons. **Pipes and tubes** form another branch of trade in which Britain is supreme. The total declined from 37,519 to 33,929 tons of which the United States supplied 13·2 per cent. The decline of 3,590 tons is made up of 2,518 tons (8·1 per cent) in shipments from the United Kingdom and 1,072 tons (16·8 per cent) in arrivals from other countries. The total sum was R55·75 lakhs (£371,700) of which the United Kingdom did R42·42 lakhs (£282,800), Belgium R30,000 (£2,000), and the United States R11·08 lakhs (£73,900). In **angle, channel,** etc. the share of the United Kingdom amounted to 17,063 tons or 63 per cent of the total, while Belgium contributed 10,095 tons or 37 per cent. The total shows an increase of 5,630 tons and R5·78 lakhs (£38,500). In the trade in **hoop** iron Britain's share was 66 per cent and the trade as a whole increased by 5,713 tons and R7·14 lakhs (£47,600). **Nails** come mainly from Germany and Belgium; and the trade continues to grow without Britain's being able to secure even a proportional expansion in her shipments.

**Lead** was one of the metals that took part in the extraordinary advance in prices in 1907. In April of that year it stood at £19 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton, but by March of the following year it had fallen to £13 15*s.* 0*d.* In 1908-09 it varied rom £12 7*s.* 6*d.* to £14 7*s.* 6*d.*, and in 1909-10 it began at £14 5*s.* and closed at £13 10*s.* In the year under review the range of prices has been narrower, the lowest having been £12 13*s.* and the highest about £13 10*s.* in March 1911. The arrivals of lead aggregated 136,501 cwts with a value of R17·9 lakhs (£119,300), and were larger than the figures of the previous year by 555 cwts or ·4 per cent in quantity, while the value declined by R53,917 (£3,594) or 2·9 per cent. This contrast marks a fall of 3·3 per cent in specific value, *i.e.*, from R13-9-3 (18*s.* 1¼*d.*) to R13-1-10 (17*s.* 5⅚*d.*) per cwt. The United Kingdom supplied lead sheets for **tea chests** to the value of R7·17 lakhs (£47,800), as compared with R8·36 lakhs (£55,700) in 1909-10; while imports of this class from foreign countries showed a small advance at R75,202 (£5,013). There is thus a net decline of R48,878 (£3,258) or 5·8 per cent in value and of 6,082 cwts or 10·3 per cent in quantity. The average value of the British sheet rose from R14-4-0 (19*s.*) to R15-10-6 (£1 0*s.* 10½*d.*) per cwt, while that of the foreign articles fell from R18-1-9 (£1 4*s.* 1¾*d.*) to R10-10-0 (14*s.* 2*d.*).

**Tin** has been the subject of some of the most marked price movements of the year. The dullness in copper confirms the belief that the activity in tin does not result from any great activity in those industries in which the two

metals are commonly associated. But the prosperity of the British tin-plate trade has certainly accounted for much of it. About half of the world's supply is derived from the Straits, and the limited number of sources renders tin a favourable subject of speculation. During 1910 this fact was exploited by certain strong groups with considerable success. Prices have ruled high throughout the year. In London, Straits tin in April stood at £152 per ton which was £18 higher than in April 1909. In May the price receded, but in July the upward movement was resumed. The price touched £204 on the 30th January 1911. At the end of February it was £187 5*s*. and at end of March 1911 it was £180 10*s*. This marks a gain of £31 5*s*. on the twelve months and the price now is practically on a level with the £200 recorded in 1907 and within sight of the £215 recorded in 1906. Recent advices report a considerable further advance. India draws her supplies from the Malay Archipelago ; and in 1910-11 her demand showed a small expansion from 38,621 cwts with a value of R44·17 lakhs (£294,500) to 38,729 cwts with a value of R45·42 lakhs (£302,800). The quantity thus increased by only 0·28 per cent while the total value advanced by 2·8 per cent. From the discrepancy a rise of 2·5 per cent in specific value may be deduced, and this only feebly reflects the great rise in average prices of tin in London. **Unwrought tin** from the Straits was also imported to the extent of 33,351 cwts with a value of R40·69 lakhs (£271,300), which shows a quantitative drop of some 1,300 cwts from the 34,650 cwts of the previous year, though there is an advance of R1·56 lakhs (£10,400) in value on the R39·13 lakhs (£ 60,900) of 1909-10.

The quantity of tin raised in the Mergui and Tavoy districts in Burma was 109 tons valued at R2·05 lakhs (£13,700) as compared with 84 tons valued at R1·45 lakhs (£9,700) in 1909-10. The increase is one of 29·8 per cent in quantity, 41·4 per cent in value, and 8·7 per cent in specific value. The ore was exported to the Straits for treatment.

**Machinery** in 1910-11 represented only 17·6 per cent of the total value of imported metals and manufactures thereof and only 3·7 per cent of the imports of all merchandise. For the second year in succession there has been a decline in the arrivals of machinery ; and in India this is an important fact. Growth was continuous up to 1908-09 ; and up to that time textile machinery held the first place. In 1908-09 it was a subject of congratulation that the growth should have continued in spite of the general business depression that arose in 1907-08, but in 1909-10 that depression took effect unmistakably in all classes of machinery. In the year now being reviewed, textile machinery is the only head under which the upward movement has not been resumed ; and the decline in this class is so great as to have more than counterbalanced the substantial developments in other descriptions. The total value of all classes of machinery has receded from R506·07 lakhs (£3,373,800) to R473·04 lakhs (£3,153,600), the decline being R33·03 lakhs (£220,200) or 6·5 per cent. For the first time the value of **textile** machinery cedes the premier place to the composite heading of **other sorts,** and it shows a total value of only R163·96 lakhs (£1,093,100) in place of R215·15 lakhs (£1,434,300) in 1909-10 and R287·60 lakhs (£1,917,300) in 1908-09. This discloses a drop of no less than R51·19 lakhs (£341,300) or 23·8 per cent on the twelve months, and the total is the smallest recorded since 1905-06 when the item was first distinguished. The diminution results from the depression in the cotton and jute industries. Bengal, as the seat of the latter, took textile machinery to

the value of R77·5 lakhs (£516,700) against R85·04 lakhs (£566,900) in the previous year, the diminution being R7·54 lakhs (£50,200) or 8·9 per cent. Bombay, which has many advantages in cotton and none in jute, imported textile machinery only to the value of R76·53 lakhs (£510,200) against R113·07 lakhs (£753,800) in 1909-10. The contraction is one of R36·54 lakhs (£243,600) or 32·3 per cent, and the total is not much more than half of that recorded in 1907-08. Madras, which is also concerned mainly with the cotton industry, shows likewise a diminished total of R7·56 lakhs (£50,400) against R13·75 lakhs (£91,700) in the previous year. Sind, which in 1909-10 figured at R3·3 lakhs (£22,000) in the accounts, has diminished her imports of textile machinery to R2·36 lakhs (£15,700). Bengal's share of the total of **all descriptions of machinery** is 40·2 per cent, and represents a sum of R190·02 lakhs (£1,266,800) as compared with R182·02 lakhs (£1,213,500) in 1909-10, the advance being R8 lakhs (£53,300) or 4·4 per cent. Notable among the increases recorded by Bengal were R6 lakhs (£40,000) in electrical machinery, largely for the Tata Iron Works, and R3 lakhs (£20,000) in tea machinery required for one of India's most prosperous industries. Bombay, on the other hand, took less by R21·65 lakhs (£144,300) or 11 per cent, her total being R176·08 lakhs (£1,173,900), in place of R197·73 lakhs (£1,318,200) in 1909-10. The provinces outside Bengal and Bombay reduced their business from R126·32 lakhs (£842,100) to R106·94 lakhs (£712,900) and their deficiency of R19·38 lakhs (£129,200)—equal to 15·4 per cent of the previous year's record—together with that of R21·65 lakhs (£144,300) in the share of Bombay, swamped Bengal's moderate increase. In **steam engines** the recovery to R82 lakhs (£546,700) does not bring the figure to the level of two years ago; but both in **electrical** and **mining** machinery the totals of R39·59 lakhs (£263,900) and R13·83 lakhs (£92,200) are the best on record. The comprehensive heading of **other sorts**, though its R173·66 lakhs (£1,157,700) constitutes the largest item, is still short by nearly R44 lakhs (£293,300) of the value in 1908-09. It comprises agricultural machinery to the value of R81,600 (£5,440).

**Railway material** forms 15·8 per cent of the total value of metals and manufactures imported in 1910-11. For the second year in succession this branch of imports has declined. The movement in the last five years is shown in the following statement, **the unit being 1,000**:—

| | R | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . . . | 8,49,29 | = 5,662 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 9,88,74 | 6,592 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 11,93,94 | 7,960 |
| 1909-10 . . . . | 8,39,07 | 5,594 |
| 1910-11 . . . . | 6,18,60 | 4,124 |

The decline of R220·47 lakhs (£1,469,800) marks a fall of 26·28 per cent. More than half of it is accounted for by rolling stock, the value of which receded from R328·18 lakhs (£2,187,900) to R200·27 lakhs (£1,335,100). Material for private lines shows a value of R424·53 lakhs (£2,830,200) against R544·06 lakhs (£3,627,100) in 1909-10, the contraction amounting to 22 per cent. Government railways imported materials to the value of R194·07 lakhs (£1,293,800) against R295·01 lakhs (£1,966,700) in the previous year. Here the contraction of R100·94 lakhs (£672,900) marks a fall of 34·2 per cent. During the twelve months 785 miles of railway were opened, while

2,765 miles were under construction or sanctioned in April 1911. At that date the total length of line opened in India was 32,399 miles.

In 1910-11 the return on the capital expenditure on railways amounted to 4·7 per cent as compared with 4·5 per cent in 1909-10 and 3·7 per cent in 1908-09. The net revenue from railways in 1910-11 was £13,805,700 as against £12,445,400 in the previous year; and the expectation for 1911-12 is £13,963,600. The Budget for 1910-11 had provided £10,866,700 for development; but of this only £8,325,100 was spent, and the railway programme for 1911-12 has a Budget grant of £9,500,000, composed of £6,357,400 for open lines including rolling-stock, £2,382,600 for lines under construction, and £760,000 for new lines.

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES, NARCOTICS, DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS

**Chemicals**—The value of the imports of chemicals in 1910-11 was R87·61 lakhs (£584,100) as compared with R80·46 lakhs (£536,400) in the previous year. **Bleaching materials** showed an advance from R3·86 lakhs (£25,700) to R3·93 lakhs (£26,200). **Calcium carbide** increased from R1·11 lakhs (£7,400) to R1·16 lakhs (£7,700). **Cyanide of Potassium** contracted from R3·06 lakhs (£20,400) to R2·85 lakhs (£19,000), while the imports of **Disinfectants** improved from R3·18 lakhs (£21,200) to R3·55 lakhs (£23,700) and those of **Caustic soda** from R7·9 lakhs (£52,700) to R8·42 lakhs (£56,100). **Bicarbonate of soda** showed a decline at R4·19 lakhs (£27,900) in place of R4·84 lakhs (£32,300) in 1909-10, while **soda, other sorts,** increased from R10·99 lakhs (£73,300) to R13·69 lakhs (£91,300). **Sulphuric acid** rose from 74,440 cwts and R7 lakhs (£46,700) to 79,772 cwts and R7·39 lakhs (£49,300). The comprehensive heading **Chemicals, other sorts,** this year represents 32·5 per cent of the total in place of 32·7 per cent in 1909-10. Its total value advanced from R26·27 lakhs (£175,100) to R28·49 lakhs (£189,900).

**Drugs and medicines**—The market in chemicals and drugs has been firm throughout the year. Prices on the average are higher than they were a year ago. There have been some substantial advances; and those declines that have taken place have been for the most part small and have related to unimportant articles. The total value of drugs and medicines imported was R98·54 lakhs (£656,900) as compared with R90·19 lakhs (£601,300) in 1909-10, the advance being R8·35 lakhs (£55,700) or 9·3 per cent. Imports of **camphor** receded from 1,457,918 lbs to 1,251,313 lbs —14·2 per cent — in quantity and from R15·12 lakhs (£100,800) to R13·91 lakhs (£92,700)— 8 per cent—in value. Thus there was a rise of 7·1 per cent in the average value in the year under review. The maker of synthetic camphor has been less in evidence in the last two years, from which it might be argued that the present prices do not offer a profit on cost of manufacture. The exports of camphor from Formosa in 1909 were 6,670,660 lbs in place of 2,764,733 lbs in the previous year, the quantity having therefore advanced by 151 per cent. In spite of this the price of camphor, Japanese 1 oz. tablets, in London, which stood at 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb in March 1910, advanced to 1*s* 9¼*d* by the end of March 1911. **Quinine** is virtually controlled by Java, although there are still manufacturers who stand out of the ring. The sales of Cinchona bark at Amsterdam in

1910 amounted to 8,574,000 kilos with a quinine content of 516, 639 kilos, against 8,134,000 and 494,958 kilos in 1909. In India the drug is admitted free of duty. The improved production leads to a gradual decline in prices; and these receded by about 8 per cent in 1910. German brands of sulphate were quoted at $6\frac{5}{8}d.$ to $7\frac{1}{4}d.$ per oz. in April 1910, but the rate began to flag in July and by December the quotation, which still holds good, was $6\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $6\frac{3}{4}d.$ The average price has been 6·5 to 7*d.* against 6·8 to 7·25*d.* in 1909-10. This is the lowest average on record. These facts are gone into at greater length than is warranted by the statistical value of the drugs, because they have peculiar interest for India in several aspects. The imports of quinine advanced to 128,149 lbs and R10·95 lakhs (£73,000) in place of 120,112 lbs and R9·37 lakhs (£62,500) in 1909-10. The progress therefore was one of 6·7 per cent in quantity and 16·8 per cent in value, indicating a rise of 9·5 per cent in the specific value. **Proprietary and patent medicines** expanded from R23·09 lakhs (£153,900) to R25·31 lakhs (£168,700) or by 9·6 per cent and **other sorts** from R33·68 lakhs (£224,500) to R37·6 lakhs (£250,700).

**Tobacco**—The imports of tobacco in 1910-11 had a value of R49·14 lakhs (£327,600) as compared with R94·82 lakhs (£632,100) in the previous year. Of this 73·8 per cent is represented by cigarettes. The trade of the year was quite abnormal, having been disorganised by the high duties in force from the 25th Februa ry 1910 to 1st April 1911. For some time the trade in cheap imported cigarettes was stopped; but energetic steps were taken to replace them with cigarettes made in India from country leaf. In cigarettes, the year's figures show a decline from 3,083,746 lbs to 1,106,756 lbs and from R64·99 lakhs (£433,300) to R36·28 lakhs (£241,900). The loss is thus 64·1 per cent in quantity and 44·2 per cent in value; and this would appear to indicate that the shrinkage was more marked in the inferior than in the better qualities. In normal times the low quality cigarettes appear to represent 96·7 per cent of the whole. The contraction of imports probably took effect principally in these lower qualities, seeing that it is only in respect of them that a competitive indigenous industry exists and seeing that the foregoing analysis of the figures points to such a conclusion. Accepting this assumption as well founded, and accepting as correct the result of certain investigations made in 1908 regarding the weights per thousand cigarettes in different classes, the number of cigarettes imported must have been some 441,000,000 as against 1,228,000,000 in 1909-10. This represents some 2 cigarettes per annum per head of the population of British India. Of the total of R36·28 lakhs (£241,900), R31·12 lakhs (£207,500) came from the United Kingdom, R53,000 (£3,530) from the United States, and R5,500 (£367) from Further East. The R3·93 lakhs (£26,200) from Egypt represents a different class of article which was apparently proof against the higher duty. The average value per lb for each of the sources enumerated was—British R3-2-1 (4*s.* $2\frac{1}{2}d.$), American R1-6-4 (1*s.* $10\frac{1}{3}d.$), Egyptian R6-9-3 (8*s.* $9\frac{1}{4}d.$), and Eastern R6-11-8 (8*s.* $11\frac{2}{3}d.$). The duty was subsequently reduced by one-third from the 1st April 1911.

**Dyes**—The imports of **aniline** and **alizarine dyes** advanced from 13,775,957 lbs to 15,072,340 lbs in quantity and from R87·19 lakhs (£581,300) to R102·71 lakhs (£684,700) in value. This marks an improvement of 9·4 per cent in quantity and 17·8 per cent in value, together with a rise of about 8 per cent in the average value per unit, which is now 10 annas 10 pies ($10\frac{5}{6}d$) as against 10

annas 5 pies (10$\frac{5}{12}$*d.*) per lb in 1909-10. This does not necessarily mean that the price of these dyes rose generally, for there are many grades whose prices diverge widely and which are imported in varying relative quantities. These products come chiefly from Germany. The reports of the great manufacturing companies there indicate continued prosperity and foreshadow increased activity, more particularly as regards synthetic indigo. Bombay continues to be the principal port of entry, about 77 per cent of the imports having been received there. Imports of **aniline** accounted for the entire expansion referred to above. The quantity increased from 6,999,996 lbs with a value of ₹52·08 lakhs (£347,200) to 9,204,012 lbs with a value of ₹70·92 lakhs (£472,800). There was therefore an increase of 31·5 per cent in quantity and 36·2 per cent in value, with a rise of average value by 3·6 per cent, namely, from 11 annas 11 pies (11$\frac{11}{12}$*d.*) to 12 annas 4 pies (1*s.*0$\frac{1}{3}$*d*) per lb. **Alizarine** contracted at the rate of 13·4 per cent in quantity and 9·5 per cent in value, which brought the total figures to 5,868,328 lbs with a value of ₹31·78 lakhs (£211,900) in place of 6,775,961 lbs with a value of ₹35·11 lakhs (£234,100). The average value per lb rose from 8 annas 4 pies (8$\frac{1}{2}$*d*) to 8 annas 8 pies (8$\frac{2}{3}$*d*).

## OIL

The import trade in oils represents about 2·8 per cent of the total value of merchandise imported into India.

The imports of **mineral oils** in 1910-11 had a total value of ₹338·81 lakhs (£2,258,700) as against ₹314·55 lakhs (£2,097,000) in 1909-10. Of the total quantity imported in 1910-11, 70 per cent was kerosene, which by itself amounted to 56·6 million gallons with a value of ₹238·48 lakhs (£1,589,900) as compared with 64·05 million gallons with a value of ₹251·11 lakhs (£1,674,100) in 1909-10. The decrease was 11·6 per cent in quantity and 5 per cent in value.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of **kerosene** imported in each of the last two years. The imports into India proper from Burma are added at the foot. **The unit in every case is 1,000 :**

| | Quantity | | Value | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1909-10 | 1910-11 | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
| | Gals. | Gals. | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| United States . | 41,259 | 35,292 | 1,77,00= | 1,180 | 1,52,39= | 1,016 |
| Roumania . . | 1,229 | ... | 3,84 | 26 | ... | ... |
| Straits Settlements | 6,577 | 2,090 | 17,75 | 118 | 7,98 | 53 |
| Sumatra . . | 4,692 | 5,882 | 15,37 | 103 | 24,56 | 164 |
| Burneo . . | 6,985 | 7,469 | 23,25 | 155 | 29,48 | 196 |
| Russia . . | 3,304 | 5,842 | 13,87 | 92 | 23,93 | 160 |
| Other foreign countries . . | 4 | 23 | 3 | ... | 14 | 1 |
| Total foreign countries . . | 64,050 | 56,598 | 2,51,11 | 1,674 | 2,38,48 | 1,590 |
| Coastwise from Burma . . | 81,275 | 91,868 | 2,52,70 | 1,685 | 3,32,07 | 2,214 |

The year's trade has been notable for the rate war which broke out in August between the Standard and Shell interests and involved Burman companies. The popular belief is that the conflict resulted from over-production,

from the appearance of new competitors, and from consequent jealousy regarding supposed or expected encroachments on the spheres of conventional rights of the respective companies. The aggregate reduction of rates from the 15th August to the end of March ranged approximately from 9 to 19 per cent. This, of course, does not mean that the loss over the trade of that period amounted to 9 to 19 per cent; for the fall of prices was gradual and irregular. It is more difficult to ascertain whether the reduction of price has induced expanded consumption. Opinions on the subject differ, and comparison with past years is vitiated by the heavy speculative buying that took place during the six weeks' rate war in March-April, 1909. But, if an average be struck on the two years 1909 and 1910, we find a weekly consumption of about 330,000 units of two tins, or eight gallons, against which it has been estimated that the consumption for the first 17 weeks of 1911 has been at the rate of about 354,000 units. There have been rumours of peace, and, after the closing of the financial year, recoveries of rate were noticeable in some quarters; but the flotation of new companies not only in India but elsewhere complicates any proposals for agreement. In India alone seventeen new companies were registered in 1910-11 for the production of petroleum, eight with rupee capital and nine with sterling capital, the total figure representing about ₹5·63 crores or £3,753,400. It cannot be asserted that saturation point has been reached; but on the whole, it is surprising that the low rates prevalent since August 1910, did not more greatly stimulate consumption, and the inference probably is that there is a limit to the supply available at low prices. The quantity is less by something like 26,983,000 gallons than was recorded in 1908-09, but that year's trade, as has already been stated, was largely swelled by speculative purchases during the short rate war that occurred towards its close.

From the figures given above it will appear that, excluding Burma's unascertainable internal consumption of indigenous oil, India has, on the average of the last two years, absorbed kerosene at the rate of 146·9 millions of gallons per annum. The decrease in the total imports from foreign countries in 1910-11 was 7·45 million gallons or 11·6 per cent, while the increase in visible consumption was 3·14 million gallons or 2·2 per cent.

In 1909-10 Burma Oil formed 56 per cent of the total visible consumption, and her share seems to have advanced to 62 per cent as a result of an expansion in her shipments concurrently with a heavy decline in imports. The advance in shipments from Burma to India was one of 13 per cent in quantity and 31 per cent in value.

The share of the **United States** in the visible consumption in the last two years was 26 per cent; and her share in the foreign imports of the year under review is 62·4 per cent as compared with 64·4 per cent in 1909-10. In 1910-11 she decreased her shipments by 5,967,553 gallons or 14·4 per cent and by a sum of ₹24·62 lakhs (£164,100).

It would probably be well to group Borneo, Sumatra, and (as entrepôt) the Straits Settlements; and if this be done the group takes second place, contributing 11·5 per cent of the visible consumption in the last two years and 27·3 per cent in the imports of 1910-11. It is impossible to say as yet how much of the shipments by way of the Straits Settlements came from each of the other sources in this group; so no purpose would be served by specific analysis. The decline in receipts from this group of sources was 2,813,772

(gallons in quantity (15·4 per cent), but the value increased by R5·65 lakhs £37,700).

The share of **Russia** in the visible consumption is 3·9 per cent and in the last year's imports 10·3 per cent. Her improvement was one of 2,538,200 gallons or 76·8 per cent and of R10·06 lakhs (£67,100). Russia's contribution was 5,841,988 gallons and R23·93 lakhs (£159,500) against 3,303,788 gallons and R13·87 lakhs (£92,500) in 1909-10.

In 1909-10, **Roumania** sent 1·23 million gallons of kerosene oil, while in the year under review she does not figure at all.

**Bulk oil** formed 78·2 per cent of the total foreign imports, in place of 74·7 per cent in 1909-10, the total quantity received in this form being 44,258,781 gallons as against some 47,830,000 gallons in 1909-10 and 61,030,000 gallons in 1908-09. Of the total, America supplied 52 per cent, Russia 13·2 per cent, and Sumatra, Borneo, and the Straits together 34·8 per cent.

The remaining 21·8 per cent of the whole was **Case oil** The quantity was 12,338,953 gallons, and of this America supplied 99·6 per cent and Sumatra, Borneo, and the Straits 0·15 per cent. The increase in the price was due to the enhancement of duty on kerosene oil towards the close of 1909-10.

The following are the average prices of the leading descriptions of kerosene during the last three years as given by the Chambers of Commerce :

| | 1908-09 | | | | 1909-10 | | | | 1910-11 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R a. p. | s. d. | | | R a. p. | s. d. | | | R a. p. | s. d. | | |
| American— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chester—per case | 4 10 2 | = 6 | $2\frac{1}{8}$ | | 4 11 2 | = 6 | $3\frac{1}{8}$ | | 4 15 1 | = 6 | $7\frac{1}{12}$ | |
| Russian— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rising Sun „ | (a) 4 3 11 | 5 | $7\frac{11}{12}$ | | 3 5 1 | 4 | $5\frac{1}{12}$ | | 3 14 4 | 5 | $2\frac{1}{8}$ | |
| Burma— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Victoria—per 2 tins | 3 8 0 | 4 | 8 | | 2 8 11 | 3 | $4\frac{11}{12}$ | | 3 4 9 | 4 | $4\frac{3}{4}$ | |
| Gold Mohur „ | 3 13 9 | 5 | $1\frac{3}{4}$ | | 2 15 6 | 3 | $11\frac{1}{2}$ | | 3 13 1 | 5 | $1\frac{7}{12}$ | |
| Borneo— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cobra „ | 3 10 5 | 4 | $10\frac{5}{12}$ | | 2 10 0 | 3 | 6 | | 3 6 3 | 4 | $6\frac{1}{4}$ | |
| Sumatra— | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Silver-light—per case | 5 0 1 | 6 | $8\frac{1}{12}$ | | 5 1 10 | 6 | $9\frac{5}{8}$ | | 5 13 6 | 7 | $9\frac{1}{2}$ | |

Imports of **fuel oil,** on the other hand, made a striking advance from 1,481,424 gallons to 7,102,008 gallons with a value of R8·24 lakhs (£54,900). The causes of so large an increase in this particular year may remain the subject of conjecture. Of this 43 per cent came from Borneo and 47·7 per cent from he Straits as entrepôt. Bombay, which in 1909-10 took 673,162 gallons, increased this by 40·3 per cent in 1910-11 and took 944,327 gallons. Madras also took 278,769 gallons more than in 1909-10, and her total rose to 842,666 gallons as compared with 563,897 gallons; while Bengal made a great stride with 1,527,555 gallons against 244,351 gallons in the previous year. Karachi has ceased to import, while Burma for the first time appeared as buyer and took 3,787,460 gallons valued at R4·2 lakhs (£28,000).

Imports of **other mineral oils,** mainly for lubricating, advanced from 11,946,392 gallons to 15,951,710 gallons or 33·5 per cent, and imports from Burma into India proper increased by 6·4 per cent to 4,634,800 gallons.

## RAW MATERIALS

**Coal** represents 12·4 per cent of the value of raw materials imported into India. Judged by the standards of five years ago, the importation of coal might

(a) Price of 'Ram'

be held to have been fairly active in 1910-11, but for the second year in succession the figures show a decline. The coal trade in England had difficulties to face in 1910. Labour troubles of a serious kind were encountered. Industrial revival was disappointing in its dimensions. The high price of cotton limited the activity of the mills in England; but this tended to maintain export prices at a moderate level. In spite of high quotations during the strike period, the average value of coal exported from the United Kingdom in 1910 was only 11*s.* 7½*d.* per ton f.o.b. as against 11*s.* 2½*d.* in 1909 and 12*s.* 7¾*d.* in 1908. The export business was less active than in the previous year ; and it is probable that the enormous increase in American production together with a substantial increase in the output in Germany contributed to the contraction. The quantity shipped from England and Scotland (including coal for the use of ships in foreign trade) was 84,046,055 tons as compared with 85,408,174 tons in 1909. India's imports declined from 428,535 tons with a value of Rs 72·61 lakhs (£484,100) to 334,269 tons with a value of R57·23 lakhs (£381,500). The decrease in quantity is therefore 22 per cent and in value 21·2 per cent, the average value having apparently advanced by only 1 per cent. The decline in quantity is one of 94,266 tons and is largely associated with the smaller imports from Natal whose share fell away by some 62,715 tons or 79·8 per cent to 15,854 tons. The United Kingdom does 77 per cent of the whole with 258,241 tons having a value of R45·25 lakhs (£301,700), as compared with 301,509 tons in 1909-10 valued at R53·44 lakhs (£356,300). Australia does 13·3 per cent of the total, with 44,505 tons in place of 27,191 tons ; while Japan supplied 13,629 tons in place of 5,523 tons in 1909-10. Imports of British coal by Government amounted to 10,287 tons valued at R2·71 lakhs (£18,100). Particulars regarding production of Indian coal are given in the article relating to exports of coal.

The imports of **cotton** declined from 93,994 cwts and R33·58 lakhs (£223,900) to 45,291 cwts and R19·28 lakhs (£128,500). These figures mark a decline of 48,703 cwts or 51·8 per cent in quantity and R14·3 lakhs (£95,300) or 42·6 per cent in value, the average value per unit having advanced by 19·1 per cent.

The extraordinarily high price of raw cotton resulting from shortage in the American and Egyptian crops greatly restricted the use in India of such long staple foreign cottons as are wanted for the production of high count yarns. These are used in the manufacture of fine cloths and muslins for consumption in India; and the industry is largely conducted by hand weavers who are not financially strong enough to take the risk of dear material ; so the importation of foreign cottons in 1910-11 declined by more than half, and the quantity was equal to only ·8 per cent of the total mill consumption of cotton in 1910. It may probably be assumed that the 17,050 cwts received from the United Kingdom were of American origin; and this, with the 2,460 cwts shipped direct from the United States, brings their aggregate to 43 per cent of the total importation. Egypt sent only 7,093 cwts in place of 10,017 cwts in the previous year and 25,436 cwts in 1908-09; while Persia supplied 5,325 cwts against 19,028 cwts in 1909-10.

**Precious stones and pearls, unset**—The figures as recorded in the trade accounts probably bear no close relation to the true imports. It is well known that large quantities of pearls are both imported and exported in such a manner as to escape record. This is not peculiar to India, but the fact remains

that the values under the heading of precious stones fluctuate greatly and are not amenable to verification. In the year under review the world's trade in gems was still dull as a consequence of the comparative stagnation of demand in the United States; and the depression has been reflected in the Indian trade except as regards pearls. In 1909-10 the total recorded value rose from R51·62 lakhs (£344,100) to R80·6 lakhs (£537,300), and in 1910-11 it has fallen to R78·48 lakhs (£523,200) or by 2·6 per cent. The net decline is about R2·12 lakhs (£14,100). The source of the largest single supply is Bahrein which sent gems to the value of R41·02 lakhs (£273,500) in place of R38·31 lakh (£255,400) in 1909-10. Next comes Persia with R11·92 lakhs (£79,500) in place of R4·9 lakhs (£32,700) and Arabia with R11·03 lakhs (£73,500) in place of R26·65 lakhs (£177,700). Receipts from Italian East Africa amounted to R5·02 lakhs (£33,500) instead of R2·45 lakhs (£16,300). Aden's contribution fell from R5·25 lakhs (£35,000) to R4·72 lakhs (£31,500). Asiatic Turkey sent goods to the value of R4·26 lakhs (£28,400) against R2·66 lakhs (£17,700), United Kingdom R14,489 (£966) in place of R2,299 (£153), and Austria-Hungary R14,462 (£964) in place of R13,467 (£898). Diamonds are found in Central India and Madras and rubies in Burma. Of the former the ascertained production fell from R41,772 (£2,785) in 1907 to R14,103 (£940) in 1908; and in 1909, 147 carats valued at R16,329 (£1,089) were obtained.

Of rubies (including a small proportion of sapphires and spinels) the output is larger, having been as follows in the last five years:

| | Carats | R | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1906 . . . . | 326,855 | 14,33,000 | = 95,500 |
| 1907 . . . . | 334,535 | 14,26,000 | 95,100 |
| 1908 . . . . | 215,513 | 6,60,627 | 44,035 |
| 1909 . . . . | 258,304 | 8,79,731 | 58,649 |
| 1910 . . . . | 262,019 | 8,82,739 | 58,849 |

These last figures mark an expansion of nearly 1·4 per cent in quantity and of ·3 per cent in value.

**Silk**—India imports more silk than she exports, though the disparity has diminished in the year under review. The imports decreased from 2,330,185 lbs to 2,121,799 lbs and from R97·7 lakhs (£651,300) to R85·23 lakhs (£568,200). The decrease of 208,386 lbs marks a drop of 8·9 per cent in quantity; and the decline of R12·47 lakhs (£83,100) in the total value is equal to 12·8 per cent on the previous year's figure, so there was a fall of 4·3 per cent in specific value. Of the total of R85·23 lakhs (£568,200), Bombay took R70·75 lakhs (£471,700) and Burma R14·18 lakhs (£94,500). Direct imports from China, at 1,831,489 lbs, were smaller than the previous year's figures by 218,950 lbs or 10·7 per cent; while those from the Straits Settlements, in rising from 191,431 to 199,244 lbs, established an advance of 4 per cent without very greatly exceeding the figure attained two years ago.

**Wood**—The imports of unmanufactured wood (which includes timber, firewood, and ornamental wood) improved from R67·16 lakhs (£447,700) to R80·45 lakhs (£536,300). The difference of R13·29 lakhs (£88,600) represents 19·8 per cent on the previous year's figure. Of this net increase R13·07 lakhs (£87,100) is due to the recovery of the trade in timber from R66 lakhs (£440,000) to R79·07 lakhs (£527,300) and from 89,179 cubic

tons to 106,825 cubic tons. The average value of timber remained unaltered,as the advance of 19·8 per cent was common to both quantity and value. **Teak** now represents 60 per cent of the whole, in place of 65 per cent two years ago and 61 per cent in 1909-10. The figures are 54,291 cubic tons and R48·23 lakhs (£321,500) in place of 44,493 cubic tons and R40·97 lakhs (£273,100) in 1909-10. The increase is one of 22 per cent in quantity and 17·7 per cent in value. The returns received purport to show that India proper also imported from Burma a quantity of teak greater by 12,500 cubic tons and by some R16·11 lakhs (£107,400) than in 1909-10 ; but the correctness of these figures is under enquiry. Of the increased foreign imports, Siam supplied about 90 per cent, and most of the rest came from Java. **Timber other than teak** also was imported in larger quantities, and the figures stood at 52,534 cubic tons and R30·84 lakhs (£205,600) in place of 44,686 cubic tons and R25·03 lakhs (£166,900). The increase being 17·6 per cent in quantity and 23·2 per cent in value, there was apparently a rise of 4·8 per cent in the specific value. The imports from the United States of America advanced from 7,487 cubic tons with a value of R2·89 lakhs (£19,300) to 11,674 cubic tons valued at R4·63 lakhs (£30,900).

## MANUFACTURED ARTICLES

**Cotton Goods**—On the average of the last three years, cotton goods have represented 64·9 per cent of the total value of manufactured articles imported. The year under review brought some relief to the cotton industry in Europe which had been greatly depressed in 1909, a short-time agreement having been in force from July 1909 to April 1910. The improvement of demand, which had set in by the opening of the Indian financial year, was felt in England earlier than in competing countries. But the high price of cotton, by entailing high prices for yarns, repressed activity in the more primitive weaving countries ; but it told most severely on the spinning industry, which was further disorganised by a labour dispute that affected 100,000 people and resulted in a stoppage for one week in September. Towards the close of 1910 some improvement appeared even in spinning, while looms have been extraordinarily active for some months. Data relating to the raw material and its prices will be found in that section which relates to exports of raw cotton. That on exports of cotton manufactures gives facts about the Indian cotton industry. After the close of the financial year, April 1911 saw a further strong advance in ready cotton prices ; and with forward business in new crop American passing at substantially lower rates, forward purchasers of cotton manufactures became increasingly cautious. But with a productive capacity adapted to the maximum activity of demand, the world's cotton industry must drag till cotton prices are definitely established on a more moderate level. The number of cotton spindles in the world in 1907 was supposed to be about 114 millions. The number rose to 129 millions in 1908, to 131½ millions in 1909, and to 134½ millions in 1910. The growth in the four years has been about 18 per cent The growth in ten years has been about 27·3 per cent. In the same period the United Kingdom had added some 7,897,000 or 17·4 per cent to its spindles. The effect of the conditions indicated is reflected by the fact that an analysis of the returns of 100 companies in England shows an average dividend of 5⅗ per cent in 1910 against 7⅞ per cent in 1909, 11·2 per cent in 1908, and 24·6 per cent in 1907. The values of shares of 115 textile concerns in England as quoted by

the *Manchester Guardian* showed an average gain of 2·05 per cent on the 24th February 1911, as compared with the same date in 1910.

The purchasing power of India gained largely in 1910, and in spite of the extraordinarily high prices of cotton goods a very large business was done in imported cloths. At the end of the financial year a considerable volume of goods was still to be delivered at high rates and the lower prices being quoted for new crop cotton inspired some anxiety as to realisation of the business.

The **British exports of yarn** in 1910 were 191,694,500 lbs with a value of £13,344,345, as compared with 215,223,400 lbs with a value of £11,822,145. The decrease in quantity is one of 23,528,900 lbs or 10·9 per cent, while the value increased by £1,522,200 or 12·9 per cent. British exports of **piece goods** rose from 5,722,158,100 yards and £68,279,389 to 6,018,454,400 yards and £78,717,106, the increase being 296,296,300 yards and £10,437,717. The aggregate increase in the value of Britain's exports of cotton goods was thus £12,470,827 or 13·3 per cent on the figure for the previous year.

The aggregate **value of the imports** into India of cotton yarn and of woven and other cotton goods in the last six years has been as follows, **the unit being 1,000**:

| | Yarn | | Woven and other goods | | Total | | Proportion of total imports of merchandise |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| 1905-06 | 3,42,54= | 2,283 | 39,01,77= | 26,012 | 42,44,31= | 28,295 | 41 per cent |
| 1906-07 | 3,22,32 | 2,149 | 37,69,43 | 25,129 | 40,91,75 | 27,278 | 38 „ |
| 1907-08 | 3,69,32 | 2,462 | 44,34,93 | 29,566 | 48,04,25 | 32,028 | 37 „ |
| 1908-09 | 3,64,88 | 2,432 | 34,36,58 | 22,911 | 38,01,46 | 25,343 | 31 „ |
| 1909-10 | 3,31,96 | 2,213 | 36,05,09 | 24,034 | 39,37,05 | 26,247 | 34 „ |
| 1910-11 | 3,13,73 | 2,091 | 41,70,30 | 27,802 | 44,84,03 | 29,893 | 35 „ |

The increase in 1910-11 was therefore one of ₹5·47 crores (£3,646,700) or 13·9 per cent.

In **Yarn** there was a fall of 7,796,803 lbs or 19·34 per cent in quantity and of ₹18·23 lakhs (£121,500) or 5·5 per cent in total value, the specific value having thus increased by 14·7 per cent. The trade depends to a great extent on the handloom weavers who are often indebted, and the high level of prices has been a grave incubus. In view of the possibility of a decline of prices the question of late deliveries has been engaging attention. The quantities imported in each of the last six years are shewn here in *millions of pounds*:—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 | 45·78 | 1908-09 | 41·52 |
| 1906-07 | 37·67 | 1909-10 | 40·30 |
| 1907-08 | 37·32 | 1910-11 | 32·50 |

It may be added that on the average of the five years ending 1909-10 the quantity of imported yarn retained for consumption in India has been about 34,287,000 lbs per annum, and that this represents about 7·9 per cent of the mill-made yarn used in India, the local mills supplying the balance of about 400,563,000 lbs.

In 1910-11 the United Kingdom supplied 91 per cent of the yarn imported, and her total declined by 19·2 per cent to 29,606,500 lbs as against 36,651,200 lbs in 1909-10. Japan supplied 316,117 lbs or about 1 per cent of the total as against nil in the previous year. Of the total, undyed yarn now forms 56 per cent with a total of 18,234,000 lbs and ₹181·48 lakhs (£1,209,900), while dyed yarn stands at 14,270,000 lbs and ₹132·25 lakhs (£881,700). Of the

former, 97·2 per cent came from the United Kingdom, while the principal other sources were Japan, the Straits Settlements, and China. The United Kingdom also supplied 83·2 per cent of the dyed yarns, of which goods 1·8 per cent came from Austria, 6·3 per cent from Italy, 2·4 per cent from Belgium, and 5·8 per cent from Holland. The arrivals of 40s mule contracted from 10,034,616 lbs with a value of ₹67·11 lakhs (£447,400) to 6,753,970 lbs valued at ₹53·63 lakhs (£357,500).

It is interesting to compare the imports of coarse, medium, and fine yarns with the production of similar descriptions by the Indian mills. (**Unit=1,000 lbs**) :

| | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nos. 1 to 25—Imported . | 4,095= ·68 per cent | 2,425= ·42 per cent | 1,602= ·29 per cent |
| Indian . | 597,608 99·32 | 574,706 99·58 | 552,495 99·71 |
| | 601,703=86·46 | 577,131=86·98 | 554,097=87·15 |
| Nos. 26 to 40—Imported . | 25,668 31·73 | 26,200 34·85 | 19,674 26·86 |
| Indian . | 55,239 68·27 | 48,989 65·15 | 53,576 73·14 |
| | 80,907=11·63 | 75,189=11·33 | 73,250=11·52 |
| Above 40—Imported . | 8,580 64·62 | 7,625=67·93 | 6,627=78·27 |
| Indian . | 4,697 35·38 | 3,599 32·07 | 1,840 21·73 |
| | 13,277=1·91 | 11,224=1·69 | 8,467= 1·33 |
| | 695,887=100 | 663,544=100 | 635,814=100 |

It is worthy of note that the decline in imports of fine yarns was not accompanied by an increase in the imports of Egyptian or American cottons suitable for the local production of such yarn or by a great increase in the mill production of such yarn. On the contrary, the imports of foreign cottons declined greatly; but the production figures given above show that there was some expansion in the local spinning of 26s to 40s.

**Cotton fabric** represent 32·2 per cent of the total value of private merchandise imported as compared with 30·8 per cent in 1909-10. The value increased from ₹3,605·09 lakhs (£24,033,900) to ₹4,170·3 lakhs (£27,802,000). The increase was one of ₹565·21 lakhs (£3,768,100) or 15·6 per cent. Some descriptions of cotton goods are not stated in yards. It is therefore convenient, in ascertaining the changes of specific value, to confine the calculation to **piecegoods only**. The imports of these amounted to 2,308,128,000 yards and ₹3,900·21 lakhs (£26,001,400), against 2,192,698,000 yards and ₹3,388·5 lakhs (£22,590,000) in 1909-10. The improvement amounts to 115·43 millions of yards and ₹511·71 lakhs (£3,411,400), which figures represent advances of 5·2 per cent in quantity, 15·1 per cent in total value, and 9·3 per cent in specific value. These ratios vary in respect of diverse classes. For example, the specific value of grey goods rose by 10·5 per cent, and coloured goods by 6 per cent, while the increase in that of white goods was 4·4 per cent.

The following statement shows in *millions of yards* the relative importance of these three classes in the course of the last twenty-two years. It will

be noticed that the grey goods class is lower, and white and coloured goods are higher, than any of the earlier figures recorded:

| | Grey (unbleached) | White (bleached) | Coloured, printed or dyed | Percentage of grey in total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1889-90 to 1893-94 . | 1,223·47 | 368·63 | 374·17 | 62 |
| „ 1894-95 „ 1898-99 . | 1,209·77 | 418·59 | 351·49 | 61 |
| „ 1899-1900 „ 1903-04 . | 1,204·53 | 469·69 | 430·57 | 57 |
| „ 1904-05 „ 1908-09 . | 1,230·71 | 572·66 | 515·44 | 53 |
| 1909-10 . . . . . | 1,236·83 | 493·04 | 462·83 | 56·4 |
| 1910-11 . . . . . | 1,130·08 | 586·52 | 591·53 | 49 |

Grey goods declined by 8·6 per cent, while white goods advanced by 19 per cent and coloured goods by 27·8 per cent. Bengal took only 828,228,700 yards of grey goods or 73·3 per cent of the total, as compared with 951,831,000 yards and 77 per cent in 1909-10.

The following statement shows in *millions of yards* figures for two years relating to the principal descriptions of imported goods belonging to these three classes under the present system of classification:

| | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|
| *Grey (unbleached)*— | | |
| Chádars . . . . . | 3·34 | 4·12 |
| Dhutis, sáris, and scarves . . . . . | 604·31 | 523·06 |
| Jaconets, including madapollams, mulls, and cambrics . | 115·48 | 117·23 |
| Drills and jeans . . . . . | 19·10 | 17·26 |
| Sheetings . . . . . | 0·65 | 0·08 |
| T. cloth and domestics . . . . . | 8·55 | 3·69 |
| Longcloth and shirtings . . . . . | 483·54 | 463·52 |
| Printers . . . . . | 0·22 | 0·08 |
| Unspecified . . . . . | 1·64 | 1·04 |
| Total . | 1,236·83 | 1,130·08 |
| *White (bleached)*— | | |
| Chádars . . . . . | 0·45 | 1·20 |
| Dhutis, sáris, and scarves . . . . . | 57·19 | 55·32 |
| Nainsooks . . . . . | 166·33 | 198·26 |
| Jaconets, madapollams, mulls, cambrics, and muslins . | 141·98 | 190·74 |
| Twills . . . . . | 2·08 | 3·20 |
| Drills and jeans . . . . . | 3·65 | 4·89 |
| Sheetings . . . . . | 0·16 | 0·29 |
| T. cloth and domestics . . . . . | 0·01 | 0·02 |
| Longcloth and shirtings . . . . . | 94·30 | 100·11 |
| Cheeks, spots, and stripes . . . . . | 9·49 | 12·61 |
| Unspecified . . . . . | 17·40 | 19·85 |
| Total . | 493·04 | 586·52 |
| *Coloured, printed or dyed*— | | |
| Chádars . . . . . | 0·14 | 0·10 |
| Dhutis (including lungis) . . . . . | 28·28 | 26·91 |
| Sáris and scarves . . . . . | 43·49 | 56·36 |
| Cambrics, including muslins, mulls, and jaconets . . | 82·23 | 112·76 |
| Drills and jeans . . . . . | 14·59 | 16·89 |
| Twills . . . . . | 21·07 | 24·77 |
| Prints and chintz . . . . . | 121·66 | 151·57 |
| Shirtings . . . . . | 75·60 | 105·34 |
| Other sorts . . . . . | 75·77 | 96·78 |
| Total . | 462·83 | 591·53 |

It will be seen that among the grey goods, the most important groups, excepting jaconets, show marked contraction. In white goods there was improvement in all classes except dhutis, saris, and scarves; and some of the increases were large. Among coloured and figured goods, dhutis also fell away, while the others, with the exception of a minute fall in chádars, were substantially better.

The production in Indian weaving mills, about which particulars are given in the chapter upon exports of cotton manufactures, consists chiefly of unbleached shirting, dhutis, T. cloths, domestics, and chádars. The continued increase amounted in the year under review to 16,119,000 lbs or 7·04 per cent. The yardage of grey and bleached piecegoods increased from 771,130,000 yards to 826,539,000 yards, the advance being 55,409,000 yards or 7·19 per cent. The weight at the same time rose from 178,505,000 lbs to 191,048,000 lbs, which latter figure is equal to 78·03 per cent of the total weight of all woven cotton goods imported.

The extent to which the cotton goods of the three main classes are derived from the United Kingdom is indicated below in **millions of yards:**

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom | Total | From United Kingdom |
| Unbleached goods | 1,042·29 | 1,032·62 | 1,236·83 | 1,224·64 | 1,130·08 | 1,118·93 |
| Bleached „ | 477·75 | 466·19 | 493·01 | 483·29 | 586·52 | 575·53 |
| Coloured „ | 472·48 | 441·99 | 462·82 | 432·87 | 591·53 | 557·09 |

Britain therefore supplies 99 per cent of the greys, 98·1 per cent of the whites, and 94·2 per cent of the coloured goods. The percentages recorded in 1909-10 were 99 per cent, 98 per cent, and 93·5 per cent respectively.

Besides these, there are some subsidiary classes of goods imported, the principal descriptions and values of which were (in thousands):—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece | 44,95 | =299·7 | 32,44 | =216·2 | 38,40 | =256 |
| Hosiery | 63,45 | 423 | 69,92 | 466·1 | 90,27 | 601·8 |
| Sewing thread | 28,17 | 187·8 | 29,79 | 198·6 | 34,62 | 230·8 |
| Other manufactures | 78,09 | 520·6 | 84,43 | 562·9 | 1,06,80 | 712 |

This branch of the trade therefore showed a net rise of ₹53·51 lakhs (£356,700) or 24·7 per cent. The United Kingdom supplies 83·8 per cent of the handkerchiefs and shawls and 88 per cent of the sewing thread. But of the total it does only 45·9 per cent, seeing that the considerable trade in hosiery is practically monopolised by Japan and Continental countries. There is a striking increase in Japan's trade in hosiery which grew to ₹69·08 lakhs (£460,500) against ₹45·41 lakhs (£302,700) in 1909-10; and goods to the value of ₹43,000 (£2,900) which came *viâ* Hongkong and the Straits were probably also of Japanese origin. Germany, however, participates in this trade to the extent of ₹9·32 lakhs (£62,100).

**Silk goods**—The imports of silk goods represent 5·4 per cent of the total imports of textile manufactures. It is satisfactory to note that progress in this trade has been fairly continuous for some years and became accentuated in 1910-11. Since 1905-06 the total value has in successive years been as follows:—₹190·15 lakhs (£1,267,700); ₹182·5 lakhs (£1,216,700); ₹213·49 lakhs (£1,423,300); ₹228·14 lakhs (£1,520,900); ₹226·69 lakhs (£1511,300); and in

1910-11, R276·46 lakhs (£1,843,100). The net increase is thus 49·77 lakhs (£331,800) or 21·9 per cent. Of this, **piecegoods** represent R178·93 lakhs (£1,192,900) or 64·7 per cent of the whole, the increase in this case being R25·26 lakhs (£168,400), equal to 16·4 per cent on the previous year's figure. This increase is largely accounted for by that of R12·49 lakhs (£83,300) or 13·5 per cent in the consignments from the predominant shipper, Japan, which sent goods to the value of R104·96 lakhs (£699,700) in place of R92·47 lakhs (£616,500) in 1909-10. The imports from China have shown an advance of R5·46 lakhs (£36,400) and stand at R52·56 lakhs (£350,400). Those from the Straits Settlements rose from R71,451 (£4,763) in 1909-10 to R90,745 (£6,050) in 1910-11. The Eastern section of the trade constituted by these three sources now represents 88·5 per cent of the whole. Goods of **silk mixed** with other materials advanced from R34·85 lakhs (£232,300) to R55·77 lakhs (£371,800), the increase being R20·92 lakhs (£139,500) or 60 per cent. **Other sorts** consist mainly of **warps and yarn** imported for the production of textiles for the Indian market; and these increased from R36·75 lakhs (£245,000) to R40·63 lakhs (£270,900), the expansion amounting to a sum of R3·88 lakhs (£25,900) or 10·5 per cent.

**Woollen goods** constitute 5·9 per cent of the increased total value of textiles imported into India. In spite of high price levels, the trade in India shared the prosperity that has marked this branch of commerce throughout the world in 1910-11. The total value of imports rose from R208·11 lakhs (£1,387,400) to R301·97 lakhs (£2,013,100), or by 45·1 per cent. Of the net increase of R93·86 lakhs (£625,700), nearly the whole may be ascribed to **piecegoods** which advanced in quantity from 15,849,751 yards to 24,319,524 yards and in value from R139·7 lakhs (£931,300) to R216·39 lakhs (£1,442,600). The expansion in piecegoods is therefore one of 53·4 per cent in quantity and 55 per cent in value, arguing a rise of 1·4 per cent in specific value. The share of the **United Kingdom** in this branch of the trade advanced from R105·76 lakhs (£705,100) to R158·56 lakhs (£1,057,100), or by R52·8 lakhs (£352,000), and of **Germany** from R23·82 lakhs (£158,800) to R40·24 lakhs (£268,300), the increase being R16·42 lakhs (£109,500). The increase in the one case was 50 per cent; and in the other was 69 per cent, bringing the shares of the countries respectively to 73·3 per cent and 18·6 per cent of the whole. In **shawls** too there was a substantial advance of R9·52 lakhs (£63,500) or 46·5 per cent, bringing the total value to R29·99 lakhs (£199,900) in place of R20·47 lakhs (£136,500). The number of shawls imported rose from 849,355 to 1,190,357 which is still far short of the record of 1908-09. The average value per shawl in these successive years was R2-9-8 (3*s* 5⅔*d*), R2-6-6 (3*s*. 2½*d*.), and R2-8-4 (3*s*. 4⅓*d*). Germany supplied 885,651 or 74·4 per cent of the total number. **Woollen hosiery** advanced from 371,095 lbs to 375,437 lbs in quantity, but the value declined from R10·09 lakhs (£67,300) to R10·06 lakhs (£67,100). The United Kingdom supplied 321,706 lbs and R8·62 lakhs (£57,500) or 85·7 per cent of the total. **Yarn** again advanced from 627,175 lbs and R12·74 lakhs (£84,900) to 911,629 lbs and R20·66 lakhs (£137,700) and of this Germany supplied no less than 74 per cent.

**Other manufactured goods**—Of these the following are the most important:—

| | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | | Increase (+) or decrease (—) per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | |
| Apparel including boots and shoes | 2,38,14,218 = | 1,587,615 | 3,09,76,764 = | 2,065,118 | +30·1 |
| Arms and ammunition | 29,23,307 | 194,887 | 32,45,222 | 216,348 | +11·0 |
| Books and printed matter | 37,84,020 | 252,268 | 40,15,893 | 267,726 | +6·1 |
| Building materials | 57,23,026 | 381,535 | 70,10,661 | 467,377 | +22·5 |
| Carriages and carts | 91,52,549 | 610,170 | 1,28,14,064 | 854,271 | +40·0 |
| Clocks and watches | 18,54,782 | 123,652 | 20,15,005 | 134,334 | +8·6 |
| Earthenware and porcelain | 43,57,390 | 290,493 | 46,41,727 | 309,448 | +6·5 |
| Glass and glassware | 1,28,52,909 | 856,861 | 1,56,82,332 | 1,045,489 | +22·0 |
| Instruments and apparatus— | | | | | |
| Electrical | 43,47,180 | 289,812 | 51,50,730 | 343,382 | +18·5 |
| Musical | 23,17,426 | 154,495 | 24,84,298 | 165,620 | +7·2 |
| Scientific | 27,00,292 | 180,019 | 31,36,002 | 209,067 | +16·1 |
| Jewellery and gold and silver plate | 21,59,005 | 143,934 | 21,70,567 | 144,704 | +0·5 |
| Leather and manufactures of leather | 33,21,511 | 221,434 | 37,41,324 | 249,422 | +12·6 |
| Matches | 81,55,266 | 543,684 | 83,91,168 | 559,411 | +2·9 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 57,29,757 | 381,984 | 66,58,342 | 443,890 | +16·2 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 1,01,30,249 | 675,350 | 1,12,92,136 | 752,809 | +11·5 |
| Ships, parts of | 39,41,468 | 262,765 | 9,95,356 | 66,357 | —74·7 |
| Soap | 46,37,331 | 309,155 | 53,73,470 | 358,231 | +15·9 |
| Stationery | 48,27,087 | 321,806 | 52,64,512 | 350,967 | +9·1 |
| Tea chests | 37,85,557 | 252,370 | 37,82,674 | 252,178 | —0·1 |
| Toys and requisites for games | 34,65,637 | 231,042 | 38,71,277 | 258,085 | +11·7 |
| Umbrellas | 11,25,776 | 75,052 | 12,44,279 | 82,952 | +10·5 |
| Umbrella fittings | 20,32,757 | 135,517 | 27,70,324 | 184,688 | +36·3 |

Every subhead in this group, with the exception of "parts of ships" and "tea chests," is marked by an advance. The largest item among these is the composite one **Apparel** which shows an advance of ₹71·63 lakhs (£477,500) or 30·1 per cent. **Glass** advanced by ₹28·29 lakhs (£188,600) or 22 per cent, and retains second place; while **carriages and carts**, with a rise of ₹36·62 lakhs (£244,100) or 40 per cent, have attained the same level of value as was reached by glassware in 1909-10. Most of the increase is derived from **Motor cars and motor cycles** at ₹73·24 lakhs (£488,300), which marks an increase of ₹25·67 lakhs (£171,100) or 54 per cent. **Cycles** improved by ₹1·4 lakhs (£9,300) or 5·4 per cent to ₹27·44 lakhs (£182,900). **Paper and pasteboard** gained ground at the rate of 11·5 per cent or by ₹11·62 lakhs (£77,500); and of this increase the major part of ₹7·53 lakhs (£50,200) was accounted for by writing paper with an augmented total of ₹33·06 lakhs (£220,400). **Matches** have bettered their position by about 3 per cent. **Building materials,** it is true, show an advance of ₹12·87 lakhs (£85,800) or 22·5 per cent, but the heading is a composite one. The item of **Books and printed matter,** with an increase of ₹2·32 lakhs (£15,500) or 6·1 per cent, has now taken a place among those of the first magnitude. **Electrical apparatus** with an advance of 18·5 per cent, **Earthenware** with an advance of 6·5 per cent, **Soap** with one of 15·9 per cent, and **Stationery** with one of 9·1 per cent are among the most steadily progressive of the lines; and each has a value of about half a crore. Steady progress is shown also by the smaller items of **Umbrellas** (with an increase of 10·5 per cent) and **Umbrella fittings** (with one of 36·3 per cent). **Scientific instruments** are more fluctuating; but this year they show again an advance of 16·1 per cent. **Paints, etc.** also form a rather uncertain item, but in 1910-11 they developed by no less than 16·2 per cent. **Leather** shows a healthy progress of 12·6 per cent; but **Jewellery and plate**

are stagnant. **Tea chests** also are practically unchanged; while there is a drop of no less than 74 per cent in the imports of **ships and parts of ships** This, however, is a notoriously variable item; for when river steamers are being imported in parts by one or other of the steamer companies large sums appear in the statistics, and when the programme is complete a marked fall takes place. The imports in 1909-10 were the highest on record; and in the year under review the decline amounted to ₹29·46 lakhs (£196,400). Burma's share declined from ₹32·8 lakhs (£218,700) to ₹6·58 lakhs (£43,900) and Bengal's from ₹5·12 lakhs (£34,100) to ₹60,000 (£4,000.)

**The principal articles of importation** into India and their values in each of the last three years are shown in the following statement, the **unit being 1,000 :—**

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Cotton manufactures— | | | | | | |
| *Grey piece goods* | *15,19,11* | *10,127* | *17,51,78* | *11,678* | *17,69,21* | *11,794* |
| *White* „ | *7,77,70* | *5,185* | *7,68,25* | *5,122* | *9,54,59* | *6,364* |
| *Coloured* „ | *9,25,11* | *6,167* | *8,68,47* | *5,790* | *11,76,41* | *7,843* |
| *Yarn* | *3,64,88* | *2,433* | *3,31,96* | *2,213* | *3,13,73* | *2,092* |
| *Other sorts* | *2,14,66* | *1,431* | *2,16,59* | *1,444* | *2,70,09* | *1,801* |
| TOTAL | 38,01,46 | 25,343 | 39,37,05 | 26,247 | 44,84,03 | 29,894 |
| Sugar | 10,90,66 | 7,271 | 11,52,20 | 7,681 | 13,16,60 | 8,777 |
| Iron and steel | 9,04,39 | 6,029 | 8,84,09 | 5,894 | 9,44,36 | 6,296 |
| Machinery and millwork | 6,61,60 | 4,411 | 5,06,07 | 3,374 | 4,73,05 | 3,154 |
| Railway material | 7,41,99 | 4,947 | 5,44,06 | 3,627 | 4,24,53 | 2,830 |
| Copper | 2,72,13 | 1,814 | 2,64,34 | 1,762 | 3,70,96 | 2,473 |
| Mineral oil | 3,90,91 | 2,606 | 3,14,55 | 2,097 | 3,38,81 | 2,259 |
| Hardware and cutlery | 2,92,58 | 1,950 | 2,76,64 | 1,844 | 3,34,69 | 2,231 |
| Apparel | 2,41,73 | 1,611 | 2,38,14 | 1,588 | 3,09,77 | 2,065 |
| Provisions | 2,81,32 | 1,876 | 2,89,87 | 1,932 | 3,02,94 | 2,020 |
| Woollen manufactures | 2,91,09 | 1,941 | 2,08,11 | 1,387 | 3,01,97 | 2,013 |
| Silk manufactures | 2,28,14 | 1,521 | 2,26,69 | 1,511 | 2,76,46 | 1,843 |
| Glass and glassware | 1,16,93 | 779 | 1,28,53 | 857 | 1,56,82 | 1,045 |
| Spices | 1,37,40 | 916 | 1,28,76 | 858 | 1,54,16 | 1,028 |
| Carriages and carts | 92,78 | 618 | 91,53 | 610 | 1,28,14 | 854 |
| Instruments and apparatus | 1,23,81 | 825 | 1,08,42 | 723 | 1,23,68 | 825 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 92,63 | 618 | 1,01,30 | 675 | 1,12,92 | 753 |
| Spirits | 1,12,68 | 751 | 1,10,30 | 735 | 1,07,31 | 715 |
| Aniline and alizarine dyes | 80,48 | 537 | 87,19 | 581 | 1,02,71 | 685 |
| Drugs and medicines | 72,82 | 485 | 90,19 | 601 | 98,54 | 657 |
| Chemicals | 74,68 | 498 | 80,46 | 536 | 87,61 | 584 |
| Silk, raw | 1,01,89 | 679 | 97,70 | 651 | 85,23 | 568 |
| Matches | 74,50 | 497 | 81,55 | 544 | 83,91 | 559 |
| Timber | 72,34 | 482 | 66,00 | 440 | 79,06 | 527 |
| Precious stones and pearls | 51,62 | 344 | 80,60 | 537 | 78,48 | 523 |
| Salt | 84,07 | 560 | 68,88 | 459 | 70,47 | 470 |
| Paints and colours and painters' materials | 59,65 | 398 | 57,30 | 382 | 66,58 | 444 |
| Coal | 82,25 | 548 | 72,61 | 484 | 57,23 | 382 |
| Beer | 58,10 | 387 | 54,29 | 362 | 55,07 | 367 |
| Horses | 28,43 | 190 | 33,03 | 220 | 54,52 | 363 |
| Stationery (excluding paper) | 43,79 | 293 | 48,27 | 322 | 52,65 | 351 |
| Tobacco | 79,42 | 529 | 94,82 | 632 | 49,14 | 328 |
| Cotton | 53,03 | 354 | 33,58 | 224 | 19,28 | 129 |

The most important feature here is the advance of some ₹5·47 crores (£3,647,000) or 13·9 per cent in **cottonmanufactures**. But the increase of 14·3 per cent in **Sugar**, which confirms it in its position as the second article in order of importance, is even more striking as occurring in a country that is itself the largest producer of sugar in the world. There are notable advances also in iron and steel, in hardware and cutlery, in woollens, in copper, and in apparel.

The **Sources of imported merchandise** have so far been assumed in the Indian trade accounts to be those countries from which the goods were shipped in such vessels as landed them in India. In the case of transhipment cargo, the port of such transhipment appeared as the port of origin unless a through Bill of Lading has been granted at the port of original shipment. When such through Bill of Lading has been granted, the country of first shipment is assigned as the country of origin. Arrangements now in force furnish statistics by which the true countries of origin are more correctly shown; but retrospective figures on that basis have not yet become available; and for the purpose of comparison it is necessary as yet to use the statistics constituted on the old basis. According to these statistics the value of imports has in the last five years been appropriated to the various principal countries in the proportion shown below:

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | per cent | per cent | per cent | per cent | per cent |
| United Kingdom | 66·8 | 66·7 | 62·6 | 62·5 | 61·1 |
| Java | 2·7 | 4·5 | 5·1 | 6·8 | 6·9 |
| Belgium | 4 | 4·1 | 4·2 | 3·9 | 4·5 |
| Germany | 5·3 | 4 | 4·1 | 3·6 | 4 |
| United States | 2·4 | 2·5 | 2·7 | 3·1 | 2·7 |
| Japan | 1·5 | 1·7 | 1·7 | 2·1 | 2·6 |
| Austria-Hungary | 2·8 | 2 | 3·2 | 2·3 | 2·5 |
| Mauritius | 2 | 1·9 | 2·1 | 2·1 | 2·4 |
| Straits Settlements | 2·6 | 2·4 | 2·8 | 2·5 | 2·3 |
| China | 1·4 | 1·7 | 1·9 | 1·9 | 1·9 |
| France | 1·4 | 1·6 | 1·5 | 1·5 | 1·6 |
| Italy | 1 | 0·9 | 0·9 | 0·9 | 1·2 |
| Russia | 0·1 | 0·3 | 0·2 | 0·1 | 0·2 |

The total value was R129·36 crores (£86,240,000) against R117·06 crores (£78,040,000) in 1909-10. The United Kingdom with a largely increased total of R79·03 crores (£52,686,700) has lost a part of its lead as a consequence of still greater expansion in the trade with foreign countries. Java with its enormous shipments of sugar has assumed the second place with R9·01 crores (£6,006,700) against R7·92 crores (£5,280,000) in the previous year. Belgium, with R5·77 crores (£3,846,700) against R4·56 crores (£3,040,000), and Germany, with R5·15 crores (£3,433,300) against R4·16 crores (£2,773,300), are in the third and fourth places; but it is known that the system of registration fails to distinguish in all cases those German goods that are shipped from Belgium. Conjointly the two countries did 8·5 per cent of the trade against 7·5 per cent in 1909-10. The United States has fallen back to the fifth place with R3·49 crores (£2,326,700) against R3·67 crores (£2,446,700) in the previous year. Austria-Hungary has improved her position with R3·16 crores (£2,106,700) in place of R2·72 crores (£1,813,300) in 1909-10. The trade with the Straits Settlements has increased from R2·96 crores (£1,973,300) to R2·99 crores (£1,993,300). Mauritius, the second great source of imported cane sugar, also increased her trade from R2·49 crores (£1,660,000) to R3·02 crores (£2,013,300). Japan's trade with India in respect of imports advanced from R2·48 crores (£1,653,300) to R3·34 crores (£2,226,700); China shipments also advanced from R2·26 crores (£1,506,700) to R2·45 crores (£1,633,300). The share of France exhibits an expansion from R1·74 crores

(£1,160,000) to R2·08 crores (£1,386,700), but the net increase here shown is less than one-third of the gross increase in her purchases of Indian wheat alone. The share of Italy with R151·78 lakhs (£1,011,800) shows an improvement of R38·98 lakhs (£259,900), and Russia comes last with a total of R25·96 lakhs (£173,100) in place of R14·86 lakhs (£99,100) in the previous year.

**Imports of Government stores** are not included in the foregoing figures. They amounted to R435·15 lakhs (£2,901,000) as compared with R559·08 lakhs (£3,727,200) in 1909-10. Of this total, R415·9 lakhs (£2,772,700) came from the United Kingdom as against R533·11 lakhs (£3,554,100) in 1909-10. The share of the United Kingdom therefore declined by R117·21 lakhs (£781,400) or 22 per cent; but it represented 95·6 per cent of the whole, as against 95·4 per cent in the previous year.

Material for State Railways amounted to R194·07 lakhs (£1,293,800) or 44·6 per cent of the total, while in the previous year the figure was R295·01 lakhs (£1,966,700) and 52·8 per cent. Imports of other descriptions of stores fell from R264·07 lakhs (£1,760,500) to R241·08 lakhs (£1,607,200), the difference being R22·99 lakhs (£153,300). It may be said that all these stores, with unimportant exceptions, really represent commercial transactions.

Imports of material for railways, State and non-State, have in the last three years been as follows :—1908-09, R1,193·94 lakhs (£7,959,600); 1909-10, R839·07 lakhs (£5,593,800); 1910-11, R618·6 lakhs (£4,124,000). In the same period the share of the United Kingdom in the total import trade, including Government stores, has been—1908-09, 64·5 per cent; 1909-10, 64 per cent; 1910-11, 62·2 per cent.

## EXPORTS OF IMPORTED GOODS

In the last three years, the value of the re-exports by sea has been on an average 2 per cent of the total exports of merchandise, and has represented 2·9 per cent of the imports from which they were derived. The development of direct communications between various parts of the world tends to diminish the trade of entrepôts, so a fairly continuous decline in this branch of India's trade might be looked for. From 1895-96, when the figures stood at R4·72 crores (£2,605,800), up to 1908-09, when they reached R3·17 crores (£2,113,300), such a decline took place; but there were slight revivals in 1907-08 and 1909-10, and in the year under review the figures recovered further to R4·26 crores (£2,840,000). The following statement records the extent of the trade in each of the last two years with averages for three quinquennial periods :—

| | | R | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Average, | 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 3,83,32,026 = | 2,392,400 |
| „ | 1900-01 to 1904-1905 | 3,22,06,440 | 2,147,100 |
| „ | 1905-06 to 1909-1910 | 3,46,79,100 | 2,311,900 |
| In the year | 1909-10 | 3,38,86,353 | 2,259,100 |
| „ | 1910-11 | 4,26,11,139 | 2,840,700 |

The chief ports of Western India continued to do the larger part of this trade. But their share of the total declined from 89·1 per cent to 88·2 per cent. Re-exports from Bombay increased by 23·9 per cent, that is, from R263·38 lakhs (£1,755,900) to R326·29 lakhs (£2,175,300). Those from Calcutta increased from R16·62 lakhs (£110,800) to R24·77 lakhs (£165,100), the rise being 49

per cent. The greater part of the re-exportation is in manufactured goods from Western countries. **Cotton goods** continue to constitute the most important class and represented 37·7 per cent of the total as against 35·8 per cent in 1909-10. Their value rose from R121·28 lakhs (£808,500) to R160·65 lakhs (£1,071,000), the increase being R39·37 lakhs (£262,500) or 32·46 per cent. **Piecegoods** rose from R107·02 lakhs (£713,500) to R145·77 lakhs (£971,800), the increase being R38·75 lakhs (£258,300) or 36·2 per cent. Of these, **grey goods** advanced from R8 lakhs (£53,300) to R9·42 lakhs (£62,800), **white goods** from R13·64 lakhs (£90,900) to R18·12 lakhs (£120,800), and **coloured goods** from R85·38 lakhs (£569,200) to R118·23 lakhs (£788,200). Re-exports of **yarn** fell from R9 lakhs (£60,000) to R8·39 lakhs (£55,900). **Persia** is usually the chief buyer of foreign yarns from India; but that country was disturbed in 1910-11 and she took only R6·42 lakhs (£42,800) of these goods in place of R7·02 lakhs (£46,800) in 1909-10. There was a substantial rise in **metals**, bringing the total from R14·68 lakhs (£97,900) to R20·78 lakhs (£138,500); but this is almost the same as was recorded in 1907-08 and much less than the R29·73 lakhs (£198,200) in 1906-07. **Apparel** recovered by R3 lakhs (£20,000) to R18·7 lakhs (£124,700). The re-exports of **sugar** were swelled by exceptional re-shipments of cane sugars to several countries in response to the high prices there; and the total value rose from R16·56 lakhs (£110,400) to R32·41 lakhs (£216,100), the increase being R15·85 lakhs (£105,700) or 95·7 per cent. **Oils**, though still falling short of the total in 1907-08, rose from R70,172 (£4,678) by 112 per cent, bringing the total to R1,48,762 (£9,917). **Foreign tea** at 667,306 lbs showed a development of 36·9 per cent; but it must be remembered that in 1907-08 the quantity had been 991,300 lbs. **Persia** has ceded her premier place in this trade in recent years, and in 1910-11 took only 85,776 lbs in lieu of 121,611 lbs in the previous year. **Asiatic Turkey** now takes the first rank with 322,256 lbs instead of 182,944 lbs; and **Muscat** increased her demand from 60,784 lbs to 67,816 lbs. Re-exports to **Russia** dropped from 29,462 lbs to 8,832 lbs.

Re-exports to Western countries are comparatively small, but the share of the **United Kingdom** at R85·5 lakhs (£570,000) as against R74·48 lakhs (£496,500) in 1909-10, represents 20 per cent of the whole as against 22 per cent. The chief commodity is **raw wool**, which comes partly by the land frontiers and is exported mainly from Karachi; and this article, which had shown substantial diminutions in the two previous years, rose from 5,154,040 lbs valued at R28·8 lakhs (£192,000) to 5,754,632 lbs with a value of R29·48 lakhs (£196,500). The following articles showed increases as detailed: **Hardware and cutlery**, R3·63 lakhs (£24,200); **Silk, raw and manufactured**, R46,200 (£3,100); **Drugs, Medicines, and Narcotics**, R5·5 lakhs (£36,700); **Provisions**, R3·39 lakhs (£22,600); **Glass and glassware**, R88,000 (£5,867); **Earthenware and porcelain**, R54,000 (£3,600); **Coral**, R50,000 (£3,333); **Carriages and carts**, R74,000 (£4,933); and **Machinery and millwork**, R62,000 (£4,133).

## EXPORTS OF INDIAN MERCHANDISE

**Exports of Indian merchandise** in 1910-11 formed 97·96 per cent of the total exports and about 60·52 per cent of the total trade in merchandise. Their total value was R204·87 crores (£136,580,000) as compared with R184·5 crores (£123,000,000) in 1909-10. The advance was therefore one of R20·37 crores (£13,580,000) or 11·04 per cent, and the total is the largest on record. The

following statement shows the progress made in the past 26 years, **the unit being 1,000:**

| | ₹ | | £ | Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease(—) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average, 1885-86 to 1889-90 | 88,75,15 | = | 63,275 | + 11·7 |
| „ 1890-91 to 1894-95 | 1,01,43,44 | | 65,467 | + 14·3 |
| „ 1895-96 to 1899-1900 | 1,03,64,93 | | 65,243 | + 2·2 |
| „ 1900-01 to 1904-05 | 1,31,00,38 | | 87,396 | + 26·4 |
| „ 1905-06 to 1909-10 | 1,67,84,31 | | 111,895 | + 28·1 |
| In the year 1909-10 | 1,84,49,64 | | 122,998 | + 23·1 |
| „ 1910-11 | 2,04,87,28 | | 136,582 | + 11·04 |

The principal articles in the export trade of the last three years are enumerated below with their values **in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling:**

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Cotton, raw | 19,76,85 = | 13,179 | 31,43,25 = | 20,955 | 35,10,27 = | 23,402 |
| Seeds | 11,67,81 | 7,785 | 18,72,62 | 12,484 | 25,12,32 | 16,749 |
| Rice (including rice flour) | 15,89,02 | 10,593 | 18,24,50 | 12,163 | 23,23,49 | 15,490 |
| Jute manufactures | 15,73,60 | 10,491 | 17,09,65 | 11,393 | 16,99,45 | 11,330 |
| Jute, raw | 19,83,45 | 13,223 | 15,08,83 | 10,059 | 15,49,00 | 10,327 |
| Wheat and wheat flour | 1,86,12 | 1,241 | 13,30,29 | 8,869 | 13,58,97 | 9,060 |
| Hides and skins | 12,46,72 | 8,312 | 13,61,98 | 9,080 | 13,08,48 | 8,723 |
| Opium | 9,34,92 | 6,233 | 9,31,36 | 6,209 | 12,76,40 | 8,509 |
| Tea | 10,39,37 | 6,929 | 11,70,74 | 7,805 | 12,41,64 | 8,278 |
| Cotton yarn and cloth | 11,53,72 | 7,691 | 11,91,56 | 7,944 | 11,01,20 | 7,341 |
| Wool, raw | 2,08,37 | 1,389 | 2,85,77 | 1,905 | 2,83,63 | 1,891 |
| Lac | 2,79,47 | 1,863 | 2,77,17 | 1,848 | 2,14,28 | 1,429 |
| Pulse, millets, and cereals | 81,72 | 545 | 2,02,96 | 1,353 | 1,76,58 | 1,177 |
| Oils | 94,44 | 630 | 1,20,86 | 806 | 1,60,08 | 1,067 |
| Coffee | 1,39,00 | 927 | 1,09,64 | 731 | 1,33,16 | 888 |
| Wood and timber | 57,62 | 384 | 69,83 | 465 | 1,08,31 | 722 |
| Provisions | 76,11 | 507 | 88,63 | 591 | 1,02,38 | 682 |
| Spices | 58,53 | 390 | 70,85 | 472 | 80,94 | 540 |
| Silk, raw | 54,05 | 360 | 50,76 | 338 | 50,55 | 337 |
| Indigo | 49,05 | 327 | 35,18 | 235 | 33,53 | 224 |

**Raw cotton** has largely exceeded any other item in the last two years, and its total of this year is the largest on record since 1866-67. It increased by ₹3·67 crores (£2,446,700) or 11·7 per cent. Of this, 18·4 per cent was due to higher prices, and the same factor had much to do with the contraction of ₹90·36 lakhs (£602,400) or 7·6 per cent in the exports of **cotton manufactures.** The net rise in cotton and its products is thus ₹276·66 lakhs (£1,844,400) equal to 6·4 per cent on the figures for the previous year. In **seeds** the increase has been remarkable. It has amounted to ₹639·70 lakhs (£4,264,700) of which 17·4 per cent is due to increase of price; and the total is the largest figure hitherto recorded. **Raw jute,** though still far short of the record figure of 1906-07, showed an increase of ₹40 17 lakhs (£267,800) or 2·6 per cent; but, as **jute manufactures** declined by ₹10·2 lakhs (£68,000) or ·6 per cent, the aggregate of the two classes showed a gain of about ₹30 lakhs (£200,000). Exports of **Rice** were higher than they have been at any time since 1901-02, and rose by ₹498·8 lakhs (£3,325,300) or 27·34 per cent. **Wheat and wheat flour** figured at ₹13·59 crores (£9,060,000), having gained ₹28·68 lakhs (£191,200); and the class **Pulses, millets, and cereals not specified,** dropped by 13 per cent, or ₹26·38 lakhs (£175,900), to ₹176·58 lakhs (£1,177,200). There was a contraction of ₹54 lakhs (£360,000) or 3·97 per cent in the important class of **Hides and Skins.** In addition to the articles specified in the foregoing list, there are others which in recent years have generally attained some importance. These are **Manures** with a total of ₹102·92 lakhs

(£686,100); **Fodder, bran, and cattlefood** with a diminished value of R122·36 lakhs (£815,700); **Indian metals and manufactures thereof** with a value of R145·55 lakhs (£970,300); **Coir manufactures** contracting to R69·54 lakhs (£463,600); and **raw hemp** and **Coal and coke** at R61·47 lakhs (£409,800) and R77·92 lakhs (£519,500) respectively. **Fruits and vegetables**, having nearly doubled its total in the single year, attained a level (R101·63 lakhs = £677,500) that would, if sustained, command a place in the tabular statement; but it will drop when copra is relegated to the oleaginous class. **Saltpetre**, having remained at about R45·35 lakhs (£302,300) in 1908-09, made a notable drop to R37·22 lakhs (£248,100). The net increase of R39·22 lakhs (£261,500) in **oils** is derived from the expansion of R29·96 lakhs (£199,700) in **mineral oils** (including wax) and of R9·26 lakhs (£61,700) mostly in **vegetable oils**. It represents 32·4 per cent on the figures for 1909-10. **Essential oils** rose by R3·07 lakhs (£20,500) and **castor oil** by R4·82 lakhs (£32,100), while **cocoanut oil** fell by R2·74 lakhs (£18,300). **Mustard oil** rose by R1·53 lakhs (£10,200), **Linseed oil** by R1·25 lakhs, and **other sorts** of oils by R1·47 lakhs (£9,800).

The statement below shows for three years the value in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling** of the trade in each of the four principal classes under which articles are grouped in the accounts:—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Articles of food and drink . . . | 32,54,09= | 21,694 | 49,03,81= | 32,692 | 55,37,64= | 36,918 |
| Chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotics, and dyeing and tanning materials . . . | 11,47,29 | 7,649 | 11,26,02 | 7,507 | 15,02,37 | 10,016 |
| Raw materials and unmanufactured articles . | 67,18,55 | 44,790 | 83,62,71 | 55,751 | 94,20,55 | 62,804 |
| Articles manufactured and partly manufactured . . . | 36,65,41 | 24,436 | 38,06,03 | 25,374 | 36,97,38 | 24,653 |

## ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK

These represent 27 per cent of the total exports. There was a net increase of R6·34 crores (£4,226,700) or 12·92 per cent in value, the total being R55·37 crores (£36,913,300) as against R49·04 crores (£32,693,300) in 1909-10. The largest single increase was that of R4·99 crores (£3,326,700) in **ri** which advanced to R23·23 crores (£15,486,700) from R18·24 crores (£12,160,000) in 1909-10, the increase being one of 27·34 per cent. **Wheat and wheat flour** at R13·59 crores (£9,060,000) improved by R28·68 lakhs (£191,200) or 2·16 per cent. **Other food grains** at R1·76 crores (£1,173,300) fell away by R26·38 lakhs (£175,900). **Tea** rose by R70·9 lakhs (£472,700 or 6·1 per cent to R12·42 crores (£8,280,000). **Coffee** rose by R23·52 lakhs (£156,800) or 21·5 per cent to R1·33 crores (£886,700). **Fruits and vegetables** rose by R7·92 lakhs (£52,800) or 8·46 per cent to R1·02 crores (£680,000). **Provisions** advanced by R13·65 lakhs (£91,000) to R1·02 crores (£680,000), and **spices** by R10·09 lakhs (£67,300) to R80·94 lakhs (£539,600).

**Coffee**—The exports of coffee represent some 2·4 per cent of the total exports of articles of food and drink. The year has been a remarkable one in the coffee markets of Europe, and the general tone has somewhat resembled

that during the boom of 1886 to 1888. In the first half of 1910 the European markets stiffened, and in the second half marked strength was developed. Speculation re-appeared in the trade; but it reposed upon a genuine increase in demand together with a considerable shortage in the Brazilian crop and an expectation of shortage in the Indian supplies. The promoters of the valorisation scheme in Brazil have been greatly helped by successive shortages, and although the Trust still carries some 6,310,323 bags, the value of the stock at present rates is some £20,000,000, whereas the stock of 7,531,955 bags taken over by them in 1908 had a value of only £15,768,175. From the stock in question the Trustees propose to issue only 1,200,000 bags in the current year; and a further factor in strong prices has been the greater steadiness in exchange with Brazil. In spite of the expected shortage in supply, both Brazil and India sent larger quantities than in the previous year, and the total imports into the United Kingdom rose from 819,558 cwts to 933,128 cwts in 1910. But the prices rose by 15*s.* or 20*s.* per cwt in the twelve months, bringing rates to about 60*s.* to 70*s*; and not only did this result in lower consumption figures, but continuance of the conditions together with keener competition from tea is likely to prevent recovery. Brazilian coffee now constitutes some two-thirds of the world's supply and dominates the trade. It is satisfactory to find that India has been able to market a substantially larger quantity in the year under review.

It will be seen from the following statement of India's exports of coffee in the last five years that her shipments in 1910-11 showed some recovery from the low level of 1909-10, but still fall short of the figures of certain earlier years. This is no doubt traceable to the diminution in the acreage under coffee in India, and this again to the discouragement of planters by the low prices obtainable in successive years.

| | Cwts | ℟ | | £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . . . . | 228,094 | 99,64,778 | = | 664,319 |
| 1907-08 . . . . . | 244,234 | 1,11,45,202 | | 743,013 |
| 1908-09 . . . . . | 302,022 | 1,38,99,792 | | 926,653 |
| 1909-10 . . . . . | 232,645 | 1,09,64,037 | | 730,936 |
| 1910-11 . . . . . | 272,249 | 1,33,16,141 | | 887,743 |

The increase of 17·02 per cent in quantity is accompanied by an increase of 21·5 per cent in value, which evidences a rise of 3·8 per cent in specific value, so far as declared values of duty-free exports can be relied on. This appears to show that Indian coffee has not fully shared in the average rise of prices.

Whereas the United Kingdom is usually the largest buyer of Indian coffee, with France a close second, the latter country has in the past year taken the first place and increased her purchases to 128,200 cwts or 47·1 per cent of the whole, while Britain's share has dropped to 80,599 cwts or less than 30 per cent. But much of the best coffee that goes to England is re-shipped to other countries. Since the comprehensive heading **other countries** shows an advance of some 18,128 cwts or 75·3 per cent, there is here no statistical evidence that Indian coffee is less consumed in the mother country, but the statistics of the United Kingdom show that the quantity entered for consumption diminished in 1910.

**Fruits and vegetables**—The progress in the exports of fruits and vegetables has been marked in recent years; and in 1910-11 it brought the figures from R93·7 lakhs (£624,700) to R101·63 lakhs (£677,500), the increase being one of R7·92 lakhs (£52,800) or 8·46 per cent. The principal article in this class is **Copra** which would probably be better grouped with other materials for the oil industry, as is done in certain foreign countries. It now represents 77·6 per cent of the total value of the class, and figures at 449,627 cwts and R78·92 lakhs (£526,100) as against 534,014 cwts and R74·48 lakhs (£496,500) in 1909-10. The decline in quantity was one of 15·8 per cent, but the total value rose by nearly 6 per cent marking an advance of 25·8 per cent in specific value. In the other articles falling under this head there was an increase of R3·48 lakhs (£23,200).

**Rice** formed 60·2 per cent of the total value of food grains from India in 1910-11 as against 54·3 per cent in 1909-10; and it represented 11·3 per cent of the value of all Indian produce exported, as compared with 9·9 per cent in the previous year.

The rice crops of 1909-10 and of 1910-11 both contributed to the exports of the latter year. The former was estimated at 27,856,800 tons and the latter at 27,701,450 tons as compared with 22,217,650 tons on the average of the previous five years. The available surplus therefore exceeded the normal by a large figure. But in practice the exportable surplus is diminished by exceptional general prosperity and enhanced consuming power among the people; and this factor has been present in several recent years. Many districts of India, which a few years ago rejected Burma rice as unwholesome for the reason that it has to be cooked somewhat differently from Indian rice, learned the peculiar methods during times of shortage and have accepted this grain as useful. This means that in the event of future shortage of food grains in India proper, her demand for Burma rice will be more ready than formerly; and the market will have to take this factor into account; but it will be seen below that abundant crops in India, together with a high level of prices maintained by the strong Chinese demand, led to reduction in the Burmese exports to India proper.

The following statement shows **in thousands** the quantity and value of the exports abroad during the last five years:—

| | True Exports from all India | | | Burma's share of total per cent | Coastwise Exports from Burma | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | ₹ | £ | | Tons | ₹ | £ |
| 1906-07 | 1,935 | 18,52,51 = | 12,350 | 73·4 | 813 | 7,22,84 = | 4,819 |
| 1907-08 | 1,913 | 20,33,63 | 13,558 | 76·4 | 979 | 9,62,10 | 6,414 |
| 1908-09 | 1,512 | 15,88,75 | 10,592 | 72·4 | 1,157 | 12,04,91 | 8,033 |
| 1909-10 | 1,960 | 18,24,25 | 12,162 | 75·2 | 1,038 | 10,12,20 | 6,748 |
| 1910-11 | 2,400 | 23,23,13 | 15,488 | 76·5 | 550 | 5,36,58 | 3,577 |

The exports to foreign countries therefore increased in 1910-11 by 440,000 tons and R4·99 crores (£3,326,700) or by 22·4 per cent in quantity and 27·34 per cent in value. This marks a rise of 4·1 per cent in specific value. Most of the rice exported is from Burma, and the average price of Ngatsain rice in Rangoon rose from R4-2-3 (5*s.* 6*d.*) to R4-5-9 (5*s.* 10*d.*) per cwt or by 5·3 per cent. On the other hand, the average price in Calcutta for Ballam rice No. 1, which was R6-3-4 (8*s.* 3*d.*) per cwt in 1909-10, was R5-11-1 (7*s.* 7*d.*) or 8·3 per cent lower in 1910-11. Since the new Burma crop appeared on the market in December 1910, the price in Rangoon has ranged about R4-6-8 (5*s.* 11*d.*).

Burma's share of the exports to foreign countries was in quantity 76·5 per cent of the total exports from British India, as compared with 75·2 per cent in the previous year.

The decline in Burma's shipments of rice to India proper is striking. In 1910-11 they amounted to 550,340 tons. This constitutes a drop of 47 per cent and restores the trade very much to the level that prevailed up to 1905-06. The following statement shows the distribution of Burma's coastwise exports among the various provinces of India :—

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Tons | Tons | Tons | Tons | Tons |
| Bengal . . . | 276,040 | 431,301 | 550,957 | 271,422 | 50,342 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam | 239,006 | 142,341 | 21,486 | 7,250 | 18,526 |
| Bombay . . . | 114,634 | 206,395 | 243,095 | 202,650 | 190,297 |
| Sind . . . | ... | ... | 91 | ... | ... |
| Madras . . . | 172,772 | 173,733 | 322,611 | 503,391 | 270,939 |
| Travancore . . | 10,513 | 25,856 | 18,928 | 42,261 | 15,204 |
| Other Non-British Ports | 10 | ... | ... | 11,312 | 5,032 |
| Total . | 812,975 | 979,626 | 1,157,168 | 1,038,286 | 550,340 |

Bengal took less than a tenth of what she took in the time of shortage two years ago. Bombay's figure has returned to normal level from which it never very greatly departed. Bengal together with Eastern Bengal and Assam imported rice to the value of only R72 lakhs (£480,000) instead of R308 lakhs (£2,053,300) in the previous year.

**Ceylon is the** largest single purchaser of Indian rice, and took 361,809 tons of a value of R4·3 crores (£2,866,600) as against 304,965 tons in 1909-10 with a value of R3·54 crores (£2,360,000). There was thus an increase of 18·6 per cent in quantity and one of 21·2 per cent in value. The discrepancy indicates a rise of 2 per cent in specific value, which may be compared with the rise shown by the total exports.

**Japan's** purchases from India are very much less than formerly, and the trade, which a few years ago averaged some 337,000 tons, now stands at 61,617 tons, though this is an improvement on the 13,068 tons of 1909-10.

The strong demand from **China** which resulted from famine in Southern China in the earlier part of 1910 and in Kiangsu and Anhui towards the end of the year, was sustained except in November and December. It contributed largely to the strength of prices and indeed caused some embarassment in the Rangoon trade in the early months of the year. In 1908-09 the exports to China from Indian ports amounted to 2,763 tons with a value of R2·02 lakhs (£13,500). In 1909-10 they rose to 6,858 tons and R4·05 lakhs (£27,000) ; but in 1910-11 they leaped to 38,214 tons and R30·22 lakhs (£201,500), which marks increases of 31,356 tons or 457 per cent in quantity, of R26·17 lakhs (£174,500) or 646 per cent in value, and of 33·9 per cent in specific value. The exports by way of the **Straits Settlements** are always much larger than the direct shipments to China, and in the past year they showed an increase even greater than that found in the China figures. The total amounted to 291,715 tons and R260·12 lakhs (£1,734,100) as against 202,641 tons and R171·23 lakhs (£1,141,500) in 1909-10, the increases being 44 per cent in quantity, 51·9 per cent in value, and 5·5 per cent in specific value. The Straits draw

large supplies from other sources, one of the most important being Bangkok; but, while Bangkok in 1910 exported considerably more than in 1909, her consignments to Singapore were less, namely, 373,743 tons against an average of 394,249 tons in the two previous years.

**Java** increased her demand from 103,095 tons and R87·36 lakhs (£582,400) in 1909-10 to 257,467 tons and R247·79 lakhs (£1,651,900) in 1910-11. There was thus an increase of 150 per cent in quantity, 185 per cent in value, and 14·3 per cent in specific value.

The practice of shipping rice to Egypt "for orders," and then forwarding it to destination not at first known, vitiates to some extent the figures relating to exports to western countries. For example, Egypt at first figured for 350,917 tons in the accounts of the previous year, but on re-adjustment this has been reduced to 79,009 tons, the balance of 271,908 tons having been distributed among other countries. So the following figures must be recognised as incomplete. Among occidental buyers of Indian rice, Germany retains the first place but the trade contracted from her record of 333,503 tons and R2·79 crores (£1,860,000) to 207,650 tons and R1·84 crores (£1,226,700). The **United Kingdom**, on the other hand, increased her demand from 143,112 tons and R1·27 crores (£846,700) to 176,554 tons with a value of R1·54 crores (£1,026,700). **Austria-Hungary**, which held third place last year, retains it with a diminished quantity of 141,094 tons valued at R1·22 crores (£813,300) in place of the 185,437 tons and R1·49 crores (£993,300) recorded in 1909-10.

The exports of **rice in the husks** declined from 40,496 tons with a value of R23·89 lakhs (£159,300) to 34,695 tons valued at R21·16 lakhs (£141,100); of this Ceylon took 34,537 tons included in the figures quoted above.

**Wheat**—On the average of the five years ending 1909-10, wheat represented 27·28 per cent of the value of all exports of food grains from India and 4·58 per cent of the total value of Indian merchandise exported. In 1910-11 it represented 33·6 per cent and 6·32 per cent respectively.

The world's wheat trade in 1910 was disturbed and the fluctuations in price were marked. Bad reports of the Argentine crop hardened prices in January; and in the end Argentina exported only about 8,239,220 quarters as against 10,997,320 quarters in 1909 and 17,000,000 quarters in 1908. France's crop was badly injured and she had to import largely. But Russia had produced some 97,650,000 quarters in 1909 and her crop in 1910 was about 96,640,000 quarters. The United States and Canada also had full crops, though at one time they were badly threatened by drought; and the Australian crop of 1909-10 was the largest on record, namely, about 11,250,000 quarters. The sum of the world's wheat crops in cereal year was estimated at 452,000,000 quarters, and, as this exceeded expectation by about 7 per cent, prices tended downwards. The Gazette average price of British wheat was 31*s.* 8*d.* per quarter in 1910 as against 36*s.* 11*d.* in 1909. The available information about crops in the ground seems to point to amples supplies and moderate rates.

Wheat in India is harvested in April to June. The statistical year begins with April. Therefore the trade statistics of 1910-11 relate to the crop statistics of 1909-10. That year was on the whole exceptionally favourable to the crop, and the increase in area and outturn would have been greater but for the good demand for other staples. The area under wheat increased by 1,972,400 acres or 7·6 per cent as compared with the previous year,

though it was very little better than the average of the previous five years. But the outturn exceeded that of the previous year by 26·3 per cent and the average of the five years by 14·9 per cent. The following statement shows the Indian exports for 1910-11 in comparison with the crop data for 1909-10, and the average exports in the five years ended 1909-10 in comparison with the average crop data for the five years ended 1908-09. Comparison is also made between the figures for the year under review and those for the last preceding year; and in every case the percentage ratio of increase or decrease is brought out, the average of the earlier period or year being taken as 100 :—

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average of previous five years | Previous year | Year under review (*b*) | Ratio of Col. 3 to | |
| | | | | Col. 1 (per cent) | Col. 2 (per cent) |
| Area, thousands of acres . . . | 26,603 | 26,149 | 28,017 | 105·32 | 107·14 |
| Outturn, thousands of tons . . . | 7,673 | 7,617 | 9,591 | 125·0 | 125·92 |
| Irrigated area, thousands of acres (*a*) . | 8,532 | 8,592 | 8,908 | 104·4 | 103·7 |
| Exports, thousands of tons . . . | 756 | 1,050 | 1,266 | 167·46 | 120·57 |
| Exports, thousands of rupees . . . | 7,68,46 | 12,70,91 | 12,95,82 | 168·62 | 101·96 |
| Average export value, rupees per ton . | 101·65 | 121·04 | 102·36 | 100·7 | 84·57 |
| Imports, thousands of tons . . . | 15 | ·39 | ·05 | ·33 | 12·82 |

It will be seen that the exports of wheat rose to 1,266,151 tons, as compared with 1,050,574 tons in the previous year and with 755,952 tons on the average of the five years ending 1909-10. The value of these exports is estimated at R12·96 crores (£8,640,000), as compared with R12·71 crores (£8,473,300) in 1909-10. The United Kingdom took 78 per cent of the total exports or 987,599 tons with a value of R10·14 crores (£6,760,000) in place of 885,496 tons and R10·69 crores (£7,126,700) in 1909-10. France's harvest was damaged by rain, and the wet condition of the grain, when garnered, created a special demand for the dry Indian wheats for mixing. She took 10·8 per cent of India's shipments; and this amounted to 136,413 tons with a value of R1·37 crores (£913,300) in place of 17,718 tons valued at R21·74 lakhs (£144,900) in the previous year. Belgium, on the other hand, reduced her demand from 120,724 tons and R1·46 crores (£973,300) to 59,287 tons and R60·81 lakhs (£405,400), which forms 4·7 per cent of the whole quantity exported. It is necessary to explain, however, that these figures are imperfect in so far as a certain element of error still attends the practice of declaring exports to Egypt " for orders " and using the ports of that country merely as a distributing point. Although some 58,816 tons are now assigned in the returns to Egypt, the verified quantities for that destination in the two previous years were found to have an average of less than 35 tons.

Some foreign wheat is imported into India every year. In times of shortage it is taken in considerable quantities even by Indian ports from which grain is commonly shipped. But in 1910-11 only 50 tons were imported.

(*a*) For British India only.

(*b*) In respect of area and outturn, the " year under review " is 1909-10; in respect of exports and imports the " year under review " is 1910-11.

The exportation of **wheat flour** from India is not a very profitable business as a rule; and even in good years the trade shows only moderate expansion. In 1910-11 it developed to 40,250 tons with a value of R63·14 lakhs (£420,900), as compared with 35,054 tons and R59·38 lakhs (£395,900) in 1909-10. The exports go mainly to Aden, Asiatic Turkey, Mauritius, East Africa, the Straits and Ceylon.

The wheat crop of 1910-11 now being handled has an estimated area of 29,554,500 acres, and the outturn is computed at 9,900,800 tons. This shows an advance of 2,032,600 tons or 25·8 per cent on the average crop of the five years ending 1908-09. Although the crop is late, it is believed to be the largest on record. Most of it has been harvested before the time of issuing this Review; and a considerable part of it has been shipped.

**Food grains other than rice and wheat** did not share the progress displayed by the principal cereals. They showed instead a contraction of 21,444 tons or 8·7 per cent, the total being 225,392 tons against 246,836 tons in the previous year. The value fell from R202·96 lakhs (£1,353,100) to R176·58 lakhs (£1,177,200). The difference represented a shrinkage of 13 per cent, showing a decline of 4·7 per cent in specific value. **Pulse** is the most important item and it developed by 62·6 per cent in quantity and 41·6 per cent in value, the total being 124,283 tons and R101·18 lakhs (£674,500) in place of 76,450 tons and R71·42 lakhs (£476,100) in 1909-10. Exports of **gram** fell from 53,497 tons and R45·99 lakhs (£306,600) to 45,372 tons with a value of R36·28 lakhs (£241,900), the decline being 15·2 per cent in quantity and 21·1 per cent in value. **Jawar and bajra** fell by 37·2 per cent from 41,317 tons to 25,953 tons, and **Barley** receded by 40·5 per cent to a total of 13,346 tons in place of 22,444 tons in the previous year. **Other sorts** fell by no less than 69·06 per cent with a total of 16,438 tons in place of 53,128 tons in 1909-10.

**Provisions**—The value of the exports of provisions is small, being only about R102·33 lakhs (£682,200) as compared with R88·68 lakhs (£591,200) in 1909-10. But it is well maintained and shows an advance of R13·65 lakhs (£91,000) or 15·4 per cent. The principal article is **ghi** or clarified butter, which advanced to R27·94 lakhs (£186,300) by R3·11 lakhs (£20,700) or 12·5 per cent. **Fish,** on the other hand, continued its upward movement, though at a diminished rate, and recorded a total of R27·31 lakhs (£182,100) as against R21·29 lakhs (£141,900) in 1909-10.

**Spices**—Exports of spices improved from R70·85 lakhs (£472,300) to R80·94 lakhs (£539,600). The R10·09 lakhs (£67,300) so gained represents an increase of 14·25 per cent. **Pepper,** with a sum of R34·3 lakhs (£228,700), continues to be the most important item: and its total value rose by R4·8 lakhs (£32,000) or 16·26 per cent, while its specific value rose by 8·94 per cent. **Chillies,** with a total value of R19·5 lakhs (£130,000), recorded an advance of R8,447 (£563) or ·43 per cent and nearly 1 per cent in the total quantity. **Ginger** at R21·04 lakhs (£140,300) showed an improvement of R4·92 lakhs (£32,800) or 30 per cent, while its specific value rose by 22·7 per cent.

**Tea** represents 6·06 per cent of the total value of Indian merchandise exported and 22·4 per cent of the exports of articles of food and drink.

The development of the Indian tea trade is maintained; and the year under review has been on the whole the most prosperous on record. In Europe the demand has developed, and consumption in the United Kingdom in 1910 was estimated by the Board of Trade at 286,954,138 lbs as compared with 283,550,846

lbs in 1909. The stock of all teas in the United Kingdom on the 31st December 1910 was only 126,687,000 lbs as against 132,693,000 lbs a year before. The imports of all teas into the United Kingdom in 1910 were 332,433,661 lbs as compared with 341,658,157 lbs in the previous year; and the imports of Indian teas fell from 183,414,000 lbs to 180,670,000 lbs as a result of the larger resort to direct shipments from Calcutta. Imports from Ceylon also declined from 117,283,745 lbs to 107,679,479 lbs, and the average sale price was 8·19*d.* per lb in place of 8·14*d.* in the previous year. The popularity of Java teas increases. The imports of Javas into the United Kingdom increased from 23,538,789 lbs to 25,110,493 lbs; and 135,596 packages were disposed of by public sale at an average of 7·59*d.* as against 124,412 packages and 7·43*d.* in 1909. The consumption in England of teas of all kinds in 1910 was estimated at 286,954,138 lbs or 6·31 lbs per head of the population. Although the average price of all Indian teas sold in London on garden account in 1910 remains at the 8·30*d.* recorded in 1909, there has been a perceptible strengthening of values in medium and inferior descriptions. This is a feature that commonly appears when first prices have reached a point at which the retailer of packet teas finds difficulty in maintaining his blend without charging the consumer more. This consideration led blenders in the United Kingdom to use a larger quantity of China teas which are cheaper and of which something like 10,283,000 lbs were entered into consumption. The quality of the China crop was not good.

The following are the exports from several competing countries in 1910 as compared with those in 1909:—

| | 1909 lbs | 1910 lbs |
|---|---|---|
| From China . . . | 199,792,400 | 206,810,133 |
| From Ceylon . . . | 192,886,500 | 182,070,100 |
| From Java . . . | 36,679,003 | 40,693,185 |

The season was favourable in India, outturn and average prices together establishing a record. The Calcutta market opened strong in May, declined in September, but hardened markedly as it became apparent that demand had been underestimated and that the less favourable weather conditions in later months were restricting outturn. Prices were highest at the end of December but dropped in the last quarter of the financial year. A leading firm reports the average prices obtained in Calcutta in the last three years to have been: 1908-09, As. 5-11·7p. (5*d.*); 1909-10, As. 6-10p. ($6\frac{5}{6}d$); 1910-11, As. 7-0·8p. ($7\frac{1}{18}d$.). The prospects of the trade have never been better than at present.

The following statement shows the increase in **area** and **outturn** in the last five years:

| | Area acres | Increase acres | Production lbs | Increase lbs |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1906 . . | 532,208 | 4,204 | 241,403,510 | 19,691,103 |
| 1907 . . | 537,849 | 5,641 | 244,668,973 | 3,265,463 |
| 1908 . . | 548,127 | 10,278 | 247,364,750 | 2,695,777 |
| 1909 . . | 555,305 | 7,178 | 258,965,792 | 11,601,042 |
| 1910 . . | 564,088 | 8,783 | 261,737,312 | 2,771,520 |

It must, however, be added that the expectation of outturn has been greatly exceeded in the year under review; and the actual increase in 1910 is shown by the trade to have been something like 4,500,000 lbs or 1·9 per cent.

Of the 564,088 acres in 1910, 442,582 acres or 78·5 per cent were situated in Eastern Bengal and Assam, which, with Bengal proper, represented nearly

87·9 per cent of the whole, the balance being divided between Northern India with 17,281 acres, Southern India with 49,000 acres, and Burma with 1,695 acres. The increase in acreage since 1905 is one of 6·8 per cent, while that in outturn is estimated at 18·05 per cent. It is, however, impossible to check the estimates of production satisfactorily, because of the unascertainable nature of the internal consumption, which is believed to exceed seven million pounds. The deliveries from Calcutta auctions for Indian consumption have been 6,239,600 lbs.

The **joint-stock capital** engaged in the industry amounts to £16,884,379.

| | ₹ | | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Companies registered in India . . . | 3,50,83,775 | = | 2,338,918 |
| „ „ „ the United Kingdom | ... | | 14,545,461 |

This gives an average capital of £30·5 per acre as the mean of the last three years; but it takes no account of the large but unknown quantity of private capital.

The value per ₹100 of joint-stock capital, as calculated on the prices of the **shares** of 69 companies quoted in the Calcutta market was ₹112 in March 1910 and of 82 companies ₹145 in March 1911.

The **labour** employed is returned as 519,863 permanent and 80,745 temporary, making a total of 600,608 hands or 1·07 hands per acre.

The following figures show the quantity and value of tea exported from India in the last five years:—

| | Quantity | Value | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | ₹ | £ |
| 1906-07 . . . | 233,653,637 | 9,85,77,642 = | 6,571,843 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 227,021,657 | 10,30,03,486 | 6,866,899 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 233,961,538 | 10,39,37,124 | 6,929,142 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 249,412,934 | 11,70,74,038 | 7,804,936 |
| 1910-11 . . . | 254,301,089 | 12,41,63,683 | 8,277,579 |

The figures for 1910-11 establish a record both in quantity and total value, although the specific value advanced by 4·03 per cent. The increase is 4·89 million pounds or 2 per cent in quantity and ₹70·9 lakhs (£472,700) or about 6·06 per cent in total value.

The direct shipments to foreign markets rose from 55,554,721 lbs to 60,029,136 lbs. The quantities of tea exported to the principal countries have been as follows **in thousands of pounds**. The figures relate to **countries of final destination**. The proportion in which each participated is indicated by percentages.

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Percentage | Quantity | Percentage | Quantity | Percentage |
| United Kingdom . . | 177,369 | 75·8 | 189,234 | 75·9 | 183,029 | 72·97 |
| Russia . . . . | 19,351 | 8·3 | 24,011 | 9·6 | 31,121 | 12·2 |
| Australia . . . . | 8,195 | 3·5 | 8,161 | 3·3 | 8,782 | 3·5 |
| Canada . . . . | 8,158 | 3·5 | 8,946 | 3·5 | 8,355 | 3·3 |
| China . . . . | 5,789 | 2·5 | 6,208 | 2·5 | 8,264 | 3·3 |
| Ceylon . . . . | 3,909 | 1·7 | 3,809 | 1·5 | 4,570 | 1·8 |
| Turkey in Asia . . | 3,316 | 1·4 | 2,618 | 1·1 | 3,641 | 1·4 |
| United States . . . | 2,102 | ·9 | 2,459 | 1 | 2,346 | ·9 |
| Egypt . . . . | 1,190 | ·5 | 634 | ·3 | 861 | ·3 |
| Germany . . . . | 1,084 | ·5 | 699 | ·3 | 382 | ·2 |
| Persia . . . . | 906 | ·4 | 387 | ·2 | 313 | ·1 |
| Other Countries . . | 2,593 | 1·1 | 2,247 | ·9 | 2,637 | 1 |

The feature of the year was the great increase in direct shipments from India to foreign markets. This resulted in a reduction of 6,205,000 lbs or 3·3 per cent in the shipments to the **United Kingdom. Russia** is the largest foreign buyer. The official statistics according to countries of final destination show an increase of 7,110,000 lbs or 29·6 per cent in the shipments to Russia; but this does not include shipments for the Hankow brick-tea market which are largely destined for Russia and which amounted to some 7,000,000 lbs in the year under review. Certain firms in the trade, regarding all shipments to Colombo, Hankow, and Shanghai as destined for Russia, consider that in the year under review that country really took some 40,000,000 lbs of Indian tea. **Australia's** purchases increased by about 7·6 per cent and those of **Canada** declined by about 6·6 per cent.

The following statement shows in annas (or pence) and decimals thereof the average prices per lb of the three descriptions of tea most largely sold at public auction in Calcutta in the last five years :—

| | Broken Pekoe | Pekoe | Pekoe Souchong, Souchong, Pekoe Fannings and Congou. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . . . | 6·67 | 5·58 | 4·58 |
| 1907-08 . . . . | 7·17 | 6·83 | 6·17 |
| 1908-09 . . . . | 6·5 | 6 | 5·17 |
| 1909-10 . . . . | 7·67 | 6·75 | 6 |
| 1910-11 . . . . | 7·25 | 7 | 6·33 |

The average price obtained in last season was about $6\frac{3}{4}$ annas (or pence) against $6\frac{7}{8}$ annas (or pence) in 1909-10.

## METALS AND MANUFACTURES

On the average of the last three years, the exports of Indian Metals and Manufactures thereof have represented only 0·6 per cent of the total exports of Indian merchandise; and that they do not in the year under review represent more than 0·7 per cent, is due to the advance in exports of other goods, for the exports of metals increased in 1910-11 from 10,519,772 cwts to 12,045,653 cwts (say 602,283 tons) and the value from R106·27 lakhs (£708,500) to R140·24 lakhs (£934,900). The advance of 14·5 per cent in quantity was therefore accompanied by one of 32 per cent in total value. But the several descriptions are so diverse in value per unit, and their quantitative relations to each other vary so widely from year to year, that the collation of the figures of quantity and value tells us little, more particularly as the declared values placed upon free exports are not always accurate. For example, manganese ore, which this year as well as in the previous year represents 95·1 per cent of the quantity of all Indian metals exported, constitutes in the year under review 74·4 per cent of the value and has a declared value of only 12·83 annas (or pence) per cwt, while copper and brass (wrought), which represent only ·04 per cent of the total quantity, forms 2·9 per cent of the total value, and has an average value of R85-5-3 (£5 13*s.* 9*d.*) per cwt.

**Manganese ore** is wanted mainly for the manufacture of steel, and its exportation has grown not only with the revival of trade in general but with the wider substitution of steel for iron. The quantity increased from 500,344 tons to 572,979 tons and the value from R79·1 lakhs (£527,300) to R91·9 lakhs (£612,700). The advance was therefore 14·5 per cent in quantity and 16·2 per cent in value and 1·5 per cent in specific value. Of the total, the United

Kingdom took 188,608 tons or 32·9 per cent, while Belgium increased its purchases to 137,680 tons. The United States took 130,850 tons or 22·8 per cent and France came fourth with a demand for 100,390 tons. The value of "other sorts" exported was R44·19 lakhs (£294,600) as against R23·8 lakhs (£158,700) in the previous year. This comprises **pig iron** R3,40,535 (£22,702), **chromite** R1,05,062 (£7,004), **wrought iron** R1,45,567 (£9,704), **old iron** R1,19,025 (£7,935), **tin** R1,57,805 (£10,520), and **lead pig** R28,46,045 (£189,736).

## CHEMICALS, DRUGS, NARCOTICS, AND DYES

**Saltpetre**, together with Borax, practically represents the exports of chemicals from India. For the second year in succession, the trade shows a decline, and the exports amounted to 327,657 cwts with a value of R37·22 lakhs (£248,100), as against 358,232 cwts with a value of R39·14 lakhs (£260,900) in 1909-10. The quantitative contraction of 9 per cent in conjunction with a decrease of 4·9 per cent in the total value marks a rise of 4 per cent in average value per unit, although the average price of Nitrate of Soda in London in 1910 was about 5 per cent less than in 1909.

**Borax**, which in London has been quiet but steady throughout the year, was exported to the extent of only 5,232 cwts, valued at R91,281 (£6,085), as against 5,976 cwts and R1,12,181 (£7,479) in 1909-10.

The **opium** trade is disorganised by the gradual dissolution of its China branch. It suffers not only from progressive compulsory restriction of its operations and from instability of conditions in China, but from violent fluctuations of price resulting in some cases indirect interference by the Chinese authorities with the local trade. The restriction of the Indian exports to China has been rigidly enforced; but as China has been receiving opium apparently from other sources, shipments from this country for China are now made under certificate of origin and destination. The very great increase in the price of Persian opium suggests that means are found of introducing it into China. Under the new agreement made on the 8th May 1911, it is provided that the Government of India shall issue certificates for 30,600 chests of Indian opium in 1911 and reduce the annual quota progressively until the trade is extinguished in 1917, which date may be anticipated under conditions defined. There are also to be special reductions in each of the next three years. The British Government consents to a large increase being made in the consolidated Chinese import duty simultaneously with the imposition of an equivalent excise on Chinese opium; and China binds herself not to impose such additional duties on the wholesale trade as were recently imposed in Canton. With measures of such importance in the air, the trade has been subject to rumours and to violent fluctuations of price. During the year under review, Malwa opium touched R4,000 (£267) per chest at the top and R2,050 (£137) at the bottom.

The following statement shows the actual quantities of opium exported from Bengal and Bombay respectively in each of the last five years, together with the total value **in thousands** and the average prices:—

| | Exports | | | | | *Average price per Chest* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity (chests) | | | Value | | Bengal | | Bombay | |
| | Bengal | Bombay | Total | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| 1906-07 | 53,588 | 12,686 | 66,274 | 9,30,79= | 6,205 | 1,381= | 92 | 1,501= | 100 |
| 1907-08 | 47,440 | 16,320 | 63,760 | 8,67,25 | 5,782 | 1,347 | 90 | 1,399 | 93 |
| 1908-09 | 44,970 | 21,987 | 66,957 | 9,34,92 | 6,233 | 1,400 | 93 | 1,388 | 92 |
| 1909-10 | 43,465 | 12,726 | 56,191 | 9.31,36 | 6,209 | 1,578 | 105 | 1,930 | 129 |
| 1910-11 | 37,131 | 6,800 | 43,921 | 12,76,40 | 8,509 | 2,859 | 191 | 3,162 | 211 |

On the average of the five years ended 1909-10, Bengal shipped 75·4 per cent of the total. In the year under review, her share rose to 84·5 per cent. Bengal's trade shows a decline of 14·6 per cent in quantity with an increase of 81·2 per cent in the value per unit, while Bombay records a quantitative contraction of no less than 46·6 per cent and a rise of 63·8 per cent in the average value. The total exports showed a contraction of 12,270 chests or 21·8 per cent in quantity together with an expansion of R345·04 lakhs (£2,300,300) or 37·05 per cent in value, which marks a rise of no less than 75·3 per cent in specific value. The average value per chest was R2,906 (£194) against R1,657 (£110) in 1909-10. Exports to Hongkong fell by 10,562 chests or 34·1 per cent to 20,394 chests, and those to the Straits Settlements declined by 2,002 chests or 17·97 per cent to 9,138 chests. Shipments to China exclusive of Hongkong and Macao increased by 417 chests or 4 per cent to 10,929 chests.

The course of the export trade in Malwa opium for China is shown by the following figures:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Average, | 1885 to 1889 . . . | 35,035 chests |
| „ | 1890 to 1894 . . . | 28,907 „ |
| „ | 1895 to 1899 . . . | 22,590 „ |
| „ | 1900 to 1904 . . . | 21,108 „ |
| „ | 1905 to 1909 . . . | 14,159 „ |
| | 1910 . . . | 12,100 „ |
| | 1911 . . . | 15,160 „ |

The **area** under poppy in the Bihar and Benares Agencies has been further reduced from 363,072 to 362,504 acres. The number of chests of Bengal opium offered for sale in 1910 was 39,600 as compared with 43,200 in 1909, and with 46,800 in 1908; and the figures for 1911 and 1912 are 31,440 and 26,520 chests respectively.

**Tobacco**—The internal trade in Indian tobacco received a fillip from the high tobacco duty in force from the 25th February 1910 to 1st April 1911. Progress is being made in the adoption of improved methods of cultivation and preparation, and in the employment of Indian leaf in cigarette factories in this country. The area under tobacco in British India and Native States is believed to be about 1,100,000 acres.

The following are the figures of the export trade for the last three years:—

| | Unmanufactured | | | Manufactured | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ |
| 1908-09 . | 93,414 | 11,78,727= | 78,582 | 13,077 | 11,42,954= | 76,197 |
| 1909-10 . | 94,961 | 13,32,516 | 88,834 | 14,189 | 12,25,776 | 81,718 |
| 1910-11 . | 157,281 | 20,16,230 | 134,415 | 15,088 | 11,73,699 | 78,247 |

In **unmanufactured** descriptions, therefore, there was an expansion of 65·6 per cent in quantity and 51·3 per cent in value, which argues a fall of 8·6 per cent in the specific value. In the **manufactured** classes, there was an advance of about 6·3 per cent in quantity but a decline of 4·2 per cent in value, the fall in average value being about 10 per cent. Of the total value under this head, 95·7 per cent is represented by cigars; and of these the largest purchasers are the Straits Settlements and the United Kingdom. Most of the unmanufactured leaf goes to the Straits, to Aden, to China, and to Holland, and much of it is of the description consumed in the *hookah* or *narghili*, so that neither in kind nor in value is it strictly comparable with

the leaf produced in other countries for manufacturing purposes. The total exports of tobacco of all descriptions amounted to 172,369 cwts in place of 109,150 cwts, and to R31·9 lakhs (£212,700) in place of R25·58 lakhs (£170,500) in 1909-10.

**Indigo** usually comes on the market in December; and most of the export are effected before the end of the statistical year. The crop of 1910 showed a continuation of the contraction in area; but a fairly satisfactory yield was on the whole obtained. There was a good deal of disappointment with the outturn of the Java-Natal seed, and it is believed that this may have been due to neglect of the principle that fresh seed should be imported frequently. The outturn was estimated at some 3 per cent less than in 1909.

The low yield is reflected in the reduced exportation; but prospects are overshadowed by the prognostication of a rate-war between powerful competitors in the German synthetic indigo trade and by the menace of lower prices to be met. The accounts of the next crop are for the most part good both as regards quantity and quality.

The following statement shows the exports of indigo in 1910-11 and the five previous years, together with approximate quotations of average price in London. The exports in the record year 1895-96 were 187,337 cwts and R5·35 crores (£3,566,700).

| | From Calcutta | From Madras ports | From other ports | Total | Value | | Average price per cwt | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | cwts | cwts | cwts | cwts | R | £ | £ | s. | d. |
| 1905-06 | 19,062 | 7,756 | 4,368 | 31,186 | 58,64,000 = | 391,000 | 19 | 7 | 4 |
| 1906-07 | 19,309 | 11,159 | 4,634 | 35,102 | 70,05,000 | 467,000 | 20 | 6 | 0 |
| 1907-08 | 16,627 | 10,619 | 5,244 | 32,490 | 63,73,000 | 425,000 | 20 | 1 | 4 |
| 1908-09 | 17,698 | 4,636 | 2,612 | 24,946 | 49,05,000 | 327,000 | 20 | 10 | 8 |
| 1909-10 | 11,221 | 3,655 | 3,185 | 18,061 | 35,18,000 | 234,500 | 20 | 1 | 4 |
| 1910-11 | 10,985 | 2,364 | 3,590 | 16,939 | 33,53,000 | 223,500 | 20 | 15 | 4 |

The declines in quantity and value respectively have been as follows. In ten years, 83·4 per cent in quantity and 84·3 per cent in value; in five years 45·7 per cent in quantity and 42·8 per cent in value. In the year under review, the rate of decline in quantity has been 6·2 per cent and in value 4·7 per cent, showing a recovery of 1·6 per cent in specific value.

Prices in Calcutta opened at an average of R145 (£9 13*s.* 4*d.*) per factory maund of 72 lbs, which is equal to £15 0*s.* 9*d.* per cwt, and closed at an average of R135 (£9) or R10 (13*s.* 4*d.*) less than at the beginning. The average price for the season works out to R142 (£9 9*s.* 4*d.*) per factory maund.

Exports to the **United Kingdom** improved by 4·1 per cent to 2,982 cwts; and the Continent of Europe increased its demand from 3,243 to 4,902 cwts. This represents a net expansion of 1,659 cwts for Europe. Shipments to **Egypt** at 3,232 cwts as against 2,586 cwts in 1909-10, were 25 per cent more; and those to the **United States** advanced from 1,027 cwts to 1,315 cwts. But **Asiatic Turkey** took only 2,671 cwts in place of 4,387 cwts in the previous year. The demand in **Persia**, which fluctuates greatly and has in the past year been subject to the general conditions of disturbance in that country, has contracted from 2,730 cwts to 1,504 cwts. The equally erratic demand from **Japan** has dropped suddenly from 1,012 cwts to 68 cwts.

**Other Dyeing and Tanning materials**—The following statement shows the exports of the principal articles in this class in the last three years :—

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ | Cwts | R | £ |
| Myrobalans . | 1,466,840 | 57,20,000 | =381,300 | 1,467,104 | 60,00,000 | =400,000 | 1,658,895 | 69,76,000 | =465,000 |
| Cutch . . | 62,812 | 9,25,000 | 61,700 | 40,712 | 6,74,000 | 45,000 | 90,988 | 16,70,000 | 111,300 |
| Turmeric . | 91,416 | 9,60,000 | 64,000 | 79,934 | 8,00,000 | 53,300 | 71,847 | 8,60,000 | 57,300 |

Of these, **Myrobalans** is by far the most important. The exports of this article advanced by 13·1 per cent in quantity and by 16·3 per cent in value with a rise of 2·8 per cent in specific value as declared. In recent years a practice has sprung up of separating the seeds from the myrobalan proper, and there has come into existence a certain trade in these seeds or kernels which are rich in oil. **Cutch** after a heavy decline in the previous year rose by 123·5 per cent in quantity and 147·7 per cent in value, the total still being short of that for earlier years; but the exports of **Turmeri** while declining by 10·1 per cent in quantity showed an increase of 7·5 per cent in value, resulting from a rise of 19·6 per cent in specific value.

## OILS

Oils form only ·8 per cent of the total value of exports of merchandise from India. They comprise animal, essential, mineral, and vegetable oils. In no department of trade has a more remarkable advance in prices been developed in a recent series of years. The causes are in dispute; but the chief among them are the many improvements in the processes of refining for alimentary purposes, while a contributory factor has been the large decline in American supplies of edible hog products said to amount to about 75 per cent. For the four years in succession, a substantial increase has taken place in the value which now reaches R160·08 lakhs (£1,067,200) in place of R120·86 lakhs (£805,700) in 1909-10. The rise is one of R39·22 lakhs (£261,500) or 32·4 per cent. **Vegetable oils** usually form by far the most important class, but in 1910-11 they constituted only 44·4 per cent, with mineral oils (including wax) at 49·3 per cent of the class total. Their value increased from R65·04 lakhs (£433,600) to R71·02 lakhs (£473,500) or by 9·2 per cent. **Cocoanut oil** makes the largest figure with a total of R34·9 lakhs (£232,700) in place of R37·63 lakhs (£250,900) in 1909-10. This marks a decrease of 7·3 per cent; the year was a favourable one in home markets with prices hardening from £40 to £43. **Castor oil**, as a consequence of a shortage of the raw material in the world's markets, advanced by 39·9 per cent to R16·9 lakhs (£112,700); while the total of **linseed, mustard,** and **sesamum** oils rose from R13·49 lakhs (£89,900) to R15·91 lakhs (£106,070) or by 18 per cent. The article of next importance in this class is **paraffin wax** which usually represents about 26 per cent of the total and now stands at 241,505 cwts or 34 per cent with a value of R55·2 lakhs (£368,000) in place of 173,211 cwts with a value of R40·02 lakhs (£266,800) in 1909-10. Shipments of paraffin candles, on the other hand, rose by 14·4 per cent to 5,414,650 lbs with a value of R15·36 lakhs (£102,400). **Essential oils,** which usually figure at about 6 per cent of the whole, have risen from R6·53 lakhs (£43,500) to R9·6 lakhs (£64,000). **Mineral oil** has in Indian commerce such an importance as is not indicated by its export statistics, but this declined to 2,584,604 gallons with a value of R23·72 lakhs (£158,100—about three times as much as previous year's value. Mineral oil fell by 2,066,601 gallons or, 44·4

per cent in quantity but its value rose by R14·78 lakhs (£98,500) or 165·3 per cent, the discrepancy being due to an unprecedented predominance of the highly valued article, petrol. But figures of internal production and consumption, which are given more appropriately in the article relating to imports of petroleum, will show that this contraction of exports is far from being attributable to any deterioration in the kerosene trade as a whole.

## RAW MATERIALS

**Coal**—On an average of the three years ending 1909-10, coal has represented ·78 per cent of the exports of raw materials and ·35 per cent of the exports of Indian merchandise. In 1910-11 these percentages advanced to ·82 per cent and ·38 per cent respectively.

The annual production of British Indian coal in the five years ending 1885 averaged 1,225,238 tons. A further 575,887 tons or so is produced in Native States. In the quinquennium ending 1895, the production of British Indian Coal averaged 2,460,608 tons, and in that ending 1905 it averaged 7,001,272 tons. In 1907, it was 10,526,468 tons and in 1908, 12,149,020 tons. In 1909 it was 11,294,227 tons; and in 1910 improved to 11,387,716 tons.

In the quinquennium ending 1884-85, the exports of Indian coal averaged 159 tons per annum. In the quinquennium ending 1894-95 the average had risen to 30,509 tons. In that ending with 1904-05, it became 517,117 tons. In that ending 1909-10, it was 765,958 tons. In 1909-10 alone it was 758,828 tons with a value of R67·14 lakhs (£447,600) ; and in 1910-11 it rose to 889,601 tons valued at R77·01 lakhs (£513,400). This is roughly about 9 per cent of the production. It marks an increase of 17·2 per cent in quantity and 14·7 per cent in value, the average value per ton being R8-10-6 (11*s*. 6*d*.).

On a dull market, inferior coals were neglected both by consumers and producers ; prices were poor for the greater part of the year ; and soon after they had shown a little strength, the better employment of tonnage throughout the world produced in coastal freights an increasing stringency that gradually became prohibitive.

Among the external buyers of Indian coal, Ceylon retains the first place, with a quantity of 511,848 tons in place of 370,570 tons in the previous year. Shipments to the Straits Settlements also improved and amounted to 223,320 tons in place of 173,214 tons in 1909-10 ; the increase representing nearly 29 per cent. Sumatra increased her demand from 78,883 to 111,694 tons ; while Aden took 7,383 tons in place of 3,460 tons, and East Africa 4,905 tons in place of *nil*, in the previous year. The total exports of coke amounted to only 1,528 tons in place of 1,834 tons in 1909-10, and most of this went to the Straits Settlements.

Calcutta was the port of shipment for all the exports except 20 tons from Eastern Bengal and Assam, 600 tons from Bombay, and 91 tons from Madras. With the rise of 130,773 tons in exports abroad, is to be recorded an increase of 133,400 tons in the shipments from Calcutta to other Indian ports. The total in the latter case was 2,210,517 tons in place of 2,077,081 tons in 1909-10, which marks an advance of 6·4 per cent. Of the total, Bombay took 990,872 tons or 44·8 per cent in place of 869,087 tons in the previous year, and this in spite of depression in the cotton industry seated there. Shipments of bunker coal from Calcutta for use of steamers were 879,139 tons against 893,326 tons in 1909-10.

The prices of first class Jherria Bengal coal per ton in wagon have been as follows in the last three years :—

| | Highest | | Lowest | | Average | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ a. p. | s. d. | ₹ a. p | s. d. | ₹ a. p. | s. d. |
| 1908-09 . | 8 8 0 | = 11 4 | 4 0 0 | = 5 4 | 5 7 8 | = 7 3⅔ |
| 1909-10 . | 3 12 0 | 5 0 | 2 12 0 | 3 8 | 3 0 10 | 4 1 |
| 1910-11 . | 3 4 0 | 4 4 | 2 6 0 | 3 2 | 2 15 0 | 3 11 |

**Cotton**—On the average of the three years ending 1909-10, raw cotton represented 33·87 per cent of the total value of Indian raw materials exported. In 1910-11 the production rose to 37·25 per cent.

The crop that mainly furnished the exports under review was that of 1909-10. It was estimated at 20·52 million acres as compared with about 20 millions in 1908-09, and the official estimate of outturn was 4,716,000 bales of 400 lbs (16,842,857 cwts) as against 3,691,000 bales (13,182,143 cwts) in the previous year. Doubt is thrown upon that estimate by its comparison with the sum of net exports and estimated internal consumption on a basis arrived at in agreement with the Bombay Cotton Trade Association, Limited. The factor of extra-factory consumption involved in that calculation is conjectural and probably somewhat too large; and it is generally believed in the trade that the estimate of the cotton crop of 1909-10 approached accuracy pretty closely. The crop of 1910-11 was reported last February at about 21·95 million acres with a yield of 4,385,000 bales or 15,660,714 cwts. The average yield would appear to be only 80 lbs per acre, and this is about 42·2 per cent of the yield commonly obtained in America.

The World's crop in 1909-10 is believed to have been 19,329,000 bales against 22,403,000 bales in the the previous year and 20,975,000 on the average of the previous five years. The shortage was therefore 3,074,000 bales or 13·7 per cent compared with the figures for 1909-10.

The American crop in the last three years has been estimated as follows by the Census Bureau (in cwts) :—

| 1908 | 1909 | 1910 |
|---|---|---|
| 50,561,973 | 59,964,870 | 46,367,004 |

That now being marketed is expected to be about 54,000,000 cwts.

The Egyptian crop in the season ending with August 1910 turned out to be only about 4,422,000 cwts in place of 5,970,000 cwts in the previous year. That for 1911 is expected to be about 6,191,000 cwts.

The following are the prices of middling upland cotton at Liverpool in the last three years, stated in pennies and decimals of a penny per lb :—

| | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|
| In Liverpool— | | | |
| Opening . . . . . | 5·77 | 5·07 | 7·96 |
| Highest . . . . . | 6·7 | 8·5 | 8·4 |
| Lowest . . . . . | 4·8 | 4·93 | 7·47 |
| Closing . . . . . | 5·05 | 8·11 | 7·7 |
| Average . . . . . | 5·49 | 5·5 | 7·96 |

The average price of middling American at Liverpool in 1910 was 8*d.* per lb as compared with 6·34*d.* in 1909 and 5·72*d.* in 1908.

It will be noticed that the range of price in the past year has been much narrower than in 1909-10 but that the average is higher by 2·46*d.* or 44·73 per cent. The extraordinarily high level at which prices were maintained renders 1910 a very remarkable year in the cotton trade. Middling American in Liverpool was at 8·05*d.* per lb on the 7th January 1910 as compared with 5·04*d.* a year before; and fine Broach was at $7\frac{5}{8}d.$ as compared with $4\frac{3}{4}d.$ a year before. Nothing has been more remarkable than the close approximation that has existed between the quotations for Middling American and fine Broach which ordinarily stand wide apart. Indeed there were occasions when they were quoted on a parity. Prices for American were weaker in April and touched 7·87*d.*; and again from September to December rates varied between 7·62*d.* to 8·18*d.*, and the quotation closed at 7·7*d.* on the 31st March.

The price of good Broach at Bombay in the last three years was as follows in annas and decimals of an anna per lb :—

| | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|
| At Bombay— | | | |
| Opening . . | 5·33 | 4·9 | 7·27 |
| Highest . . | 5·33 | 6·78 | 7·63 |
| Lowest . . | 4·41 | 4·9 | 5·86 |
| Closing . . | 4·94 | 6·78 | 7·24 |
| Average . . | 4·68 | 5·82 | 6·7 |

The increase in average price is 15 per cent; but this average is calculated without regard to the varying quantities marketed at the several seasons. The Bombay market opened at a level not again attained till December. Rates were relatively weak in July and again in September; but towards the end of October the hardening became unmistakeable and was maintained up to middle of January, after which time there was a slight decline.

Under the conditions indicated, the textile industry throughout the world has undergone a strain of unprecedented severity. Some relief came to the weaving section in the last quarter of 1910; but spinners have suffered gravely and increasingly up to the time of writing. The values of the shares of 115 textile concerns in England as quoted by the *Manchester Guardian* showed an average gain of 2·05 per cent on the 24th February 1911 as compared with the same date in 1910; and Tattersall calculates that on the working of the last three years and six months the accounts of sixteen spinning mills, after allowing for interest on loans, show a profit of 7·47 per cent per annum on share capital and a profit of 5·62 per cent per annum on share and loan capital combined.

The consumption in Britain in the cotton year ending the 31st August 1910 is estimated at 3,340,000 bales as compared with 3,604,640 bales in the previous year. The potential consumption of the mills of the world at the present time is believed to be about 20,000,000 bales, and the United States Bureau of the Census has estimated the actual consumption in the cotton year ending the 31st August 1910 at 18,321,000 bales, or 91·6 per cent of its capacity. The decline in British consumption was something over 7 per cent; and though trade is improving in some respects it does so slowly in the face of a possible decline in prices when the next American crop begins to come into sight. In India, on the other hand, the mill consumption decreased by about 180,400 cwts or 3 per cent, from 5,937,600 cwts to 5,757,200 cwts. This latter figure allows for wastage and is equivalent to 1,612,000 bales of 400 lbs.

The following figures give a summary of the export trade in the last five years, *the unit being 1,000* :—

| | Exports | | | Average declared value per cwt | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | ₹ | a. | £ | s. | d. |
| 1906-07 . . . | 7,401 | 21,97,85 | = 14,652 | 19 | 11⅛=1 | 19 | 7⅛ | |
| 1907-08 . . . | 8,562 | 25,70,25 | 17,135 | 30 | 0⅓ | 2 | 0 | 0⅓ |
| 1908-09 . . . | 6,798 | 19,76,85 | 13,179 | 29 | 1¼ | 1 | 18 | 9¼ |
| 1909-10 . . . | 8,968 | 31,43,25 | 20,955 | 35 | 0⅘ | 2 | 6 | 8⅘ |
| 1910 11 . . . | 8,440 | 35,10,27 | 23,402 | 41 | 9½ | 2 | 15 | 5½ |

It will be seen therefore that there was a decline of 5·89 per cent in quantity but a rise of 11·7 per cent in value, the ostensible rise in specific value being 18·7 per cent.

The statement below shows the destinations of the cotton exported during the same period, the *unit* as before being *1,000* :—

| | 1906-07 Cwts | 1907-08 Cwts | 1908-09 Cwts | 1909-10 Cwts | 1910-11 Cwts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Japan . . . | 1,729 | 2,245 | 2,223 | 3,297 | 2,705 |
| Germany . . . | 1,663 | 1,880 | 1,137 | 1,327 | 1,388 |
| Belgium . . . | 1,102 | 1,254 | 956 | 1,075 | 1,080 |
| Italy . . . | 874 | 1,060 | 851 | 936 | 1,067 |
| France . . . | 560 | 625 | 456 | 499 | 484 |
| United Kingdom . | 452 | 453 | 383 | 541 | 579 |
| Austria-Hungary . | 619 | 622 | 380 | 694 | 663 |
| China . . . | 166 | 135 | 216 | 347 | 137 |
| Spain . . . | 139 | 157 | 107 | 115 | 208 |

The shipments to Japan therefore fell by 592,000 cwts or 18 per cent, whereas Germany increased her demand by 61,000 cwts or 4·6 per cent. The United Kingdom took some 38,000 cwts more than in 1909-10; and indeed it is understood that the consumption of Indian staples in the United Kingdom in 1910 was about 271,000 bales as compared with 163,000 bales Brazilian, African, etc. Italy's progress in the use of Indian cotton is noticeable, and reproduces a feature shown by the exports of jute to that country.

**Hides and skins** represent 4·4 per cent of the entire exports of Indian produce. The imports of dry hides into the United Kingdom from all sources in 1910 amounted to 516,941 cwts with a value of £1,855,911, against 468,993 cwts in 1909 with a value of £1,602,094; and as the receipts of wet hides were heavier, the aggregate value of the two classes was about £484,500 more than in the previous year. The value of hides and skins imported into America is estimated at £17,939,200 as against £21,598,100 in 1909. The exports of **raw hides** from India, however, rose by only 1·8 per cent in quantity and 5·3 per cent in value, there being a rise of 3·4 per cent in the average value per cwt which is recorded at ₹63-5-5 (£4 4*s*. 5*d*.) in 1910-11. These facts should be read in conjunction with the notes about tanned hides and skins. The average weight of a raw hide was 9·47 lbs in place of 9·33 lbs in 1909-10. Exports of **raw skins** decreased by 10·8 per cent in quantity and 20·5 per cent in value, there being a fall of about 10·9 per cent in average value per cwt. There was an increase of 8·2 per cent in the average weight in this class and this is possibly due to the fact that while prices for light skins lost anything from 33 to 50 per cent, those for skins that yield heavy leather held their ground in point of price. The number of **raw hides and skins together** amounted to 33·4 millions in place of 38·3 millions in 1909-10, and the total value to ₹899·42 lakhs (£5,996,100)

in place of R965·12 lakhs (£6,434,100). Of the total weight, Calcutta shipped 74·2 per cent. The **United States** took 32·7 per cent of the total with a value of R281·11 lakhs (£1,874,100) which marks a decline in spite of the removal of the 15 per cent import duty in that country. **Germany** increased her demand and came second with R220·1 lakhs (£1,467,300). **Italy** took R91·09 lakhs (£607,300); **Austria-Hungary** R110·85 lakhs (£739,000); **Spain** R41·45 lakhs (£276,300); **France** R42·81 lakhs (£285,400); and the **United Kingdom** R51·31 lakhs (£342,000) which marks a decline of 20·5 per cent. In skins also, the United States hold the first place, since they take three-fourths of the total, while the United Kingdom takes only about 8 per cent.

The following statement of the exports for the last six years enables the reader to follow the course of the trade, **the unit being 1,000**:—

| | Hides | | | | Skins | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwt | No. | R | £ | Cwt | No. | R | £ |
| 1905-06 . | 944 | 11,532 | 5,23,38= | 3,489 | 539 | 31,521 | 4,86,49= | 3,243 |
| 1906-07 . | 1,091 | 12,917 | 6,40,90 | 4,273 | 464 | 26,866 | 4,48,49 | 2,990 |
| 1907-08 . | 680 | 8,278 | 4,31,98 | 2,880 | 310 | 17,202 | 2,73,20 | 1,821 |
| 1908-09 . | 765 | 9,651 | 4,78,48 | 3,190 | 474 | 23,810 | 3,55,38 | 2,369 |
| 1909-10 . | 837 | 10,042 | 5,12,66 | 3,418 | 616 | 28,286 | 4,52,46 | 3,016 |
| 1910-11 . | 852 | 10,073 | 5,39,67 | 3,598 | 550 | 23,325 | 3,59,74 | 2,398 |

The price of hides in India has been variable during the year, but closes without substantial change from the levels of twelve months ago. Buffalo was quoted at R8-4 (11*s.*) per 20 lbs in April, rose to R9 (12*s.*) in June and closed at R8 (10*s.* 8*d.*) in March as in the previous year. Cow hides showed a weaker tendency, and opening at R24 (£1 12*s.*) closed on rupee down at R23 (£1 10*s.* 8*d.*), which is R2 (2*s.* 8*d.*) less than in March 1910. Concerted restriction of outturn by Austrian tanners has considerably reduced the price of Indian kips.

**Jute** represents 16·4 per cent of the exports of raw materials. In this class it is surpassed by raw cotton and by oilseeds; but trade in the two textile staples is supplemented by very large shipments of yarns and fabrics.

So far as the western markets are concerned, the year 1910 will be remembered as unfortunate and perplexing. The movement of prices has been marked. First marks jute in Dundee was quoted at £14-2-6 per ton in January 1910, went to £14-7-6 in March, and receded to £14 in April and May. This quotation remained nominal through June. At the end of July the quotation was £13-15-0 but in August it was at £15. In the second week of September the publication of the district reports carried it to £18, and £19 was done; but on the appearance of the Directors' forecast, the price receded quickly to £16-7-6. Speculation brought it up to £21-5-0 in November, but by the end of the year it declined to £19 or £20.

The trade has been difficult throughout the year. Abortion of the revival that seemed to be foreshadowed in the United States in the beginning of 1910 has kept the market in a state of uncertainty; and the demand has not been proportionate to the apparent volume of the agricultural produce to be handled throughout the world. The world's annual demand for jute is estimated variously from 8,000,000 to 8,200,000 bales of 400 lbs. India is virtually the sole

producer, and the following statement compares the crop statistics with the trade movement of the last five years, *the unit being 1,000* :—

| | Area Acres | Outturn cwt | Estimated mill consumption in India cwt | Estimated exportable surplus cwt |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . . | 3,188 | 32,598 | 12,586 | 20,012 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 3,974 | 35,064 | 13,439 | 21,625 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 2,857 | 22,539 | 13,036 | 9,503 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 2,877 | 25,738 | 16,382 | 9,356 |
| 1910-11 . . . | 2,938 | 28,329 | 16,368 | 11,961 |

In addition to the mill consumption in India, there is the extra-factory consumption in India, which is conventionally estimated at 500,000 bales. But this estimate is conjectural. Certain further particulars about consumption are given in the chapter on the exports of jute manufactures.

The following statement shows the exports of the past five years, *the unit being 1,000* :—

| | Quantity cwt | Centisimal variations | Value ₹ | Value £ | Average value per cwt ₹ | Average value per cwt s. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . | 15,970 | +10·3 | 26,83,87 = | 17,892 | 16·81 = | 22·4 |
| 1907-08 . . | 14,192 | —11·1 | 17,97,28 | 11,982 | 12·66 | 16·8 |
| 1908-09 . . | 17,880 | +26 | 19,83,45 | 13,223 | 11·09 | 14·8 |
| 1909-10 . . | 14,608 | —18·3 | 15,08,83 | 10,059 | 10·33 | 13·77 |
| 1910-11 . . | 12,732 | —12·8 | 15,49,00 | 10,327 | 12·17 | 16·23 |

It will be seen that the quantity exported was less by 1,875,903 cwts or 12·8 per cent, while the value increased by ₹40·17 lakhs (£267,800) or nearly 2·7 per cent, which argues a rise of 17·8 per cent in specific value. As compared with the record year of 1908-09, the decline is one of 5,147,443 cwts or 2·8 per cent in quantity and about 21·9 per cent in value.

The following statement shows the average price in Calcutta of jute (M. group) per bale of 400 lbs in each of the five previous years and in the first week of each month of the year under review :

| | ₹ a. p. | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|
| Average of 1905-06 . . . . . | 44 11 7 = | 2 19 8 |
| „ 1906-07 . . . . . | 60 4 4 | 4 0 4 |
| „ 1907-08 . . . . . | 44 12 0 | 2 19 8 |
| „ 1908-09 . . . . . | 38 12 0 | 2 11 8 |
| „ 1909-10 . . . . . | 32 1 4 | 2 2 9 |
| Average of the previous 5 years . | 44 1 10 | 2 18 10 |

| | ₹ a. p. | £ s. d. | | ₹ a. p. | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1910—April . | 31 8 0 = | 2 2 0 | 1910—October | 40 0 0 = | 2 13 4 |
| May . | 32 0 0 | 2 2 8 | November . | 44 0 0 | 2 18 8 |
| June . | 33 0 0 | 2 4 0 | December . | 47 0 0 | 3 2 8 |
| July . | 33 0 0 | 2 4 0 | 1911—January . | 50 0 0 | 3 6 8 |
| August . | 33 0 0 | 2 4 0 | Feb ruary . | 47 0 0 | 3 2 8 |
| September | 35 4 0 | 2 7 0 | March . | 51 0 0 | 3 8 0 |
| | | | Average of 1910-11 . | 39 11 8 | 2 13 0 |

The decrease in the average price is therefore about 10 per cent.

During the year under review, the United Kingdom took 4,694,493 cwts or 1,257,556 cwts less than in 1909-10, her share being 36·8 per cent of the

whole. Germany took 2,980,246 cwts or 284,354 cwts less than in the previous year, and her share is 23·4 per cent. France with 1,448,639 cwts, or 11·5 per cent of the total, took 217,644 cwts less, while the United States reduced her demand by 141,480 cwts and took 1,287,135 cwts or 10·1 per cent. Austria-Hungary, on the other hand, increased her receipts from 703,446 to 806,066 cwts, and Italy from 726,089 to 829,475 cwts, their respective shares being 6·3 and 6·5 per cent of the total.

Calcutta shipped 91·2 per cent of the total as compared with 91·5 per cent in 1909-10 ; while Chittagong supplied 8·3 per cent against 8 per cent in the previous year. The balance ·5 per cent was shipped from Madras.

The share of **seeds** in the total value of raw produce exported (excluding such as falls under the head of food and drink) has, in the last two years, been successively 17·4 per cent and 22·4 per cent. In 1910-11 it rose to 26·7 per cent. The year's trade has been extraordinarily good, as a result of large Indian crops synchronising with shortages in other important countries. Prices in Europe were high beyond precedent. A strong speculative rise was forced in the early part of the year when the serious shrinkage in the Argentine production became known ; and, after a collapse on realisation a further rally resulted from the injury to the North American crop and carried linseed values to the highest point in November and December. Linseed is the most important, and it is believed that the world's production in 1910 was the smallest since 1901. In Argentina alone the shortage is believed to have been nearly 400,000 tons. It is not surprising therefore that the competition of the soy bean was swamped for the time. The imports of that seed into the United Kingdom rose from 416,181 to 421,531 tons ; and the bad condition of many of the arrivals somewhat abated the popularity of the material. The following statement shows the exports of oilseeds from India in each of the last five years, **the unit being 1,000**—

| | Cwts | ℟ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . | 19,736 | 13,02,17= | 8,681 |
| 1907-08 . . | 23,185 | 16,81,52 | 11,210 |
| 1908-09 . . | 16,243 | 11,67,81 | 7,785 |
| 1909-10 . . | 27,147 | 18,72,62 | 12,484 |
| 1910-11 . . | 30,983 | 25,12,32 | 16,749 |

The quantities and values of the principal descriptions of seeds exported are shown below, **the unit being 1,000**—

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ℟ | £ | Cwts | ℟ | £ | Cwts | ℟ | £ | Percentage (values) to exports of raw produce |
| Linseed . | 3,210 | 2,55,53= | 1,704 | 4,677 | 3,92,53= | 2,617 | 7,411 | 8,39,02= | 5,593 | 8·9 |
| Rape . . | 2,766 | 2,36,93 | 1,580 | 6,629 | 4,68,32 | 3,122 | 6,593 | 4,65,64 | 3,104 | 4·94 |
| Cotton . . | 3,683 | 1,31,27 | 875 | 5,650 | 2,03,18 | 1,355 | 5,980 | 2,29,53 | 1,530 | 2·44 |
| Sesamum . | 1,657 | 1,62,61 | 1,084 | 2,984 | 2,65,91 | 1,773 | 3,246 | 3,20,32 | 2,135 | 3·4 |
| Groundnut . | 1,782 | 1,35,06 | 900 | 3,243 | 2,47,00 | 1,647 | 3,690 | 3,05,46 | 2,036 | 3·24 |
| Castor . . | 1,650 | 1,05,82 | 705 | 1,901 | 1,26,06 | 840 | 2,148 | 1,65,00 | 1,100 | 1·75 |
| Poppy . . | 790 | 83,01 | 553 | 853 | 80,91 | 539 | 862 | 89,33 | 596 | ·95 |
| | | | | | | | | | Total . | 25·62 |

Both quantity and value are by far the largest on record. In quantity the increase has been one of 3,836,217 cwts or 14·13 per cent, and in value it is no less than ℟639·7 lakhs (£4,264,700) or 34·2 per cent. It exceeds the previous record (that of 1904-05) by some 4,109,161 cwts and ℟1,071·24 lakhs (£7,141,600).

The article "**copra**" might reasonably be grouped with these, as it is really a material for the extraction of oil. It is discussed under "Fruits," and was exported in 1910-11 to the extent of 449,627 cwts with a value of ₹78·92 lakhs (£526,100).

Linseed goes chiefly to the United Kingdom (₹294·22 lakhs=£1,961,500), France (₹145·76 lakhs=£971,700), Germany (₹63·17 lakhs=£421,100), and Italy (₹49·59 lakhs=£330,600). The largest buyers of rapeseed are Germany (₹138·19 lakhs=£921,300), Belgium (₹127·09 lakhs=£847,300), and France (₹111·48 lakhs=£743,200). Sesamum goes mainly to France, Belgium, Italy, and Austria-Hungary; Poppyseed to France and Belgium; Castor and Cotton seeds to the United Kingdom, and Groundnuts to France.

Of the total exports of oilseeds, Bombay shipped 54·9 per cent with a value of ₹1,300·17 lakhs (£8,667,800) : Bengal 19 per cent with a value of ₹608 lakhs (£4,053,300) : Madras 10·1 per cent or ₹251·57 lakhs (£1,677,100); and Sind 15·5 per cent or ₹344·15 lakhs (£2,294,300). The rate of increase was 21·8 per cent in the case of Bombay and 33·8 per cent in that of Bengal; while the shipments from Sind and Madras declined by 6·8 and 5·6 per cent respectively.

In **Linseed** India no longer holds the dominant position it formerly enjoyed. The world's production in 1910 was about 2,125,550 tons, and of this India produced about 20 per cent, Argentina about 28 per cent, Russia about 31 per cent, and North America about 21 per cent. The Indian crop in 1909-10 was estimated at 427,800 tons against 297,700 tons in the previous year; and the exports show an increase of 136,692 tons and ₹446·49 lakhs (£2,976,600), the improvement being 58·5 per cent in quantity, 113·7 per cent in value, and 34·8 per cent in specific value. The average price in London rose to 65*s.* 1*d.* per 410 lbs. The prospects of the trade are extraordinarily good and the new crop is estimated at 557,800 tons.

**Rapeseed**, which is generally less important to commerce than linseed, came into unusual prominence in 1910 through crushers' being driven into this market by the extraordinary prices of linseed and cotton seed. Rapeseed prices fluctuated less than these, but they were on a high plane and averaged 40*s.* 3*d.* per quarter, though the highest rate was seen at the beginning of the year. The spring crop of 1909-10 was estimated at 1,270,300 tons as compared with 987,500 tons in the previous year, and that for 1910-11 is reported as yielding 1,260,200 tons or 10,100 tons less than in 1909-10; but the export declined slightly, the specific value remaining virtually unchanged.

**Sesamum** is most largely consumed in India when there is a shortage in rapeseed; but, in the presence of good crops of both, the exports of sesamum increased by some 13,142 tons or 8·8 per cent, while the total value rose by 20·5 per cent, marking a very substantial improvement in price. The crop of 1909-10 reaped in the beginning of 1910 was about 560,800 tons; and that now being marketed is about 511,600 tons or 49,200 tons less.

**Cotton seed** represents 9 per cent of the exports of seeds and 2·44 per cent of the total value of raw Indian produce exported. Indian seed was in good supply, the yield from the crop of 1909-10 being estimated at about 1,965,000 tons, while that of 1910-11 is expected to give some 1,827,100 tons. With the large contraction in American and Egyptian supplies, prices in England were very strong. They opened at £6 10*s.* per ton and, after the drop on

realization of speculative holdings in April-May, touched £6 18*s.* 9*d.* before forward quotations for the new crop induced a fall. The exports in the official year rose by 330,409 cwts or 5·8 per cent in quantity and by R26·35 lakhs (£175,700) or 13 per cent in value, the specific value showing an improvement of 6·6 per cent. In the last two years, the United Kingdom has taken about 96 per cent of the whole quantity of cotton seed exported.

**Poppyseed** feels the competition of cotton seed so far as it is possible for two seeds to compete which require different machinery. The area under poppy in India is being steadily reduced in pursuance of the opium policy of Government, but high prices for other seeds and the deficiency in the world's olive crop stimulated exports so that they rose by 1 per cent in quantity and 10·4 per cent in value, there being thus a rise of 9·5 per cent in the specific value.

**Castorseed** exports rose by 13 per cent in quantity and 30·9 per cent in value. The rise in specific value was thus about 16 per cent.

The business in **Groundnuts** has shown a marked revival since the introduction of descriptions that resist disease. Five years ago the quantity shipped was only 1,725,000 cwts against 3,690,000 cwts recorded in the past year. The growth in exports in 1910-11 has amounted to 13·8 per cent in quantity and 23·7 per cent in total value. A considerable proportion of the exports of groundnuts from India is shipped from the French port of Pondicherry and so escapes registration in the trade of India. In the last three years, the exports by that route have been as follows :

| | Tons | ₹ | £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1907-08 . . | 35,932 | 58,48,000= | 390,000 |
| 1908-09 . . | 50,066 | 81,17,000 | 541,100 |
| 1909-10 . . | 90,042 | 1,25,43,000 | 836,200 |

**Silk** is an article whose trade reflects with some truth the prosperity of Western countries ; and in 1910 it shared in the trade revival in Europe and in the sluggishness discovered by the United States. These latter usually take about one-third of the world's supply and are resorting more freely to Far Eastern sources which furnish the world with some two-thirds of its silk. On the whole, the year was a satisfactory one except in Italy. The world's production was about 5 per cent less than in 1908 and 1909, but it was adequate to the demand ; and prospects are considered good. An average, struck on nine standard quotations in Europe at the end of 1909 and a year later, shows a gain of 7·3 per cent. Italian silk is less in favour in the United States and failed to share in the rise of price, but Shanghai silk, on the average, gained about 10·2 per cent and Cantons about 16·7 per cent. Indian silks are on a much lower plane of popularity ; and the exports of **raw silk** declined from 2,075,612 lbs to 1,847,401 lbs and from R50·76 lakhs (£338,400) to R50·55 lakhs (£337,000). This decline sweeps away most of the improvement that had been shown in the previous year. It represents 11 per cent in quantity and 0·4 per cent in value, the rise in specific value being 11·9 per cent. **Reeled mulberry silk,** which in 1909-10 stood at 479,647 lbs with a value of R39·04 lakhs (£260,300), rose by 1·4 per cent in quantity and 2·4 per cent in value to 486,213 lbs with a value of R40 lakhs (£266,700), which shows a rise of 1·1 per cent in specific value. Bengal consignments of reeled silk (mulberry and wild) rose from 319,702 lbs and R23·01 lakhs (£153,400) to 327,947 lbs and R23·13 lakhs (£154,200), the average value per lb being

R7-0-10 (9*s.* 5*d*). Bombay's trade, which had only amounted to 100 lbs in 1909-10, disappeared. The advance in Bengal's case is one of 2·6 per cent in quantity and ·52 per cent in value.

The distribution of the exports of reeled silk (mulborry and wild) was as follows :—

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | R | £ | lbs | R | £ | lbs | R | £ |
| To United Kingdom . | 189,483 | 15,11,879 | = 100,791 | 46,872 | 3,46,827 | = 23,122 | 58,049 | 4,47,561 | = 29,837 |
| ,, France . . | 365,273 | 28,53,200 | 190,213 | 438,235 | 35,12,728 | 234,182 | 411,417 | 33,90,816 | 226,054 |
| ,, United States . | 15,645 | 1,25,160 | 8,344 | 8,940 | 71,520 | 4,768 | 596 | 4,768 | 318 |
| ,, Other countries . | 11,165 | 80,859 | 5,391 | 7,088 | 50,125 | 3,342 | 23,973 | 1,85,660 | 12,377 |

The exports of **waste silk** (*chasam*)—31·2 per cent of which was wild silk—decreased from 1,485,548 lbs to 1,144,093 lbs; but its average value improved, since the total value declined only from R10·06 lakhs (£67,100) to R8·64 lakhs (£57,600). The average declared value per lb was 12·08 annas (or pence) as compared with 10·8 annas (or pence) in the previous year. The exportation of **cocoons** (of which 24·5 per cent were wild) rose from 88,929 lbs and R88,718 (£5,915) to 209,273 lbs and R1,62,100 (£10,807) in 1910-11.

**Teak timber**—The timber trade throughout the world has shown at last a certain revival after long dullness. There has been an improvement both in the quantities moved and in the rates obtained. The English demand for teak developed moderately, and part of the advance in values is due to conditions of concession and of extraction in State preserves. The average price in Calcutta per ton of 50 cubic feet was R122 to R127 (£8 2*s.* 8*d.* to £8 9*s.* 4*d.*) in 1906-07, R123 to R128 (£8 4*s.* to £8 10*s.* 8*d.*) in 1907-08, R120 to R125 (£8 to £8 6*s.* 8*d.*) in 1908-09, R124 to R129 (£8 5*s.* 4*d.* to £8 12*s.*) in 1909-10, and R125 to R130 (£8 6*s.* 8*d.* to £8 13*s.* 4*d.*) in the year under review. The retrospect of these figures is interesting because teak is a timber closely associated with ship-building. Ship-building activity is a gauge of general commercial activity, and we find here that teak prices were strong when general trade was good. The exports of teak increased by 49 per cent in quantity and 60·2 per cent in value, the total being 53,088 cubic tons and R86·92 lakhs (£579,500) as against 35,628 cubic tons and R54·24 lakhs (£361,600) in 1909-10. Together with this expansion of Rs. 32·68 lakhs (£217,900) in exports abroad, we may consider the increase of R6·9 lakhs (£46,000) in the shipments from Burma to India proper which amounted to R120·2 lakhs (£801,000) in place of R113·3 lakhs (£755,000) in 1909-10.

**Wool** represents about 3 per cent of the value of Indian raw materials exported. Karachi quotations had stood at R18 (£1 4*s.*) per maund of 82 lbs in April 1909 and at R24 (£1 12*s.*) from November 1909 to March 1910, with a twelve months' average of R21-13-4 (£1 9*s.* 1*d.*). April 1910 opened with R23 (£1 10*s.* 8*d.*) and, after touching R25 (£1 13*s.* 4*d.*) in December to February, the rate in March 1911 was again R24 (£1 12*s.*). In Western markets, prices were steady in 1910; but since August they have developed some weakness which has been more marked since December. There was a free demand as a result of the exceptional activity of the woollen industry in the United Kingdom, but the shrinkage in the United States' participation in the year's trade has reflected the unsatisfactory commercial position in that country. The **exports** of wool from India receded from 59·8 million lbs to 58·3 million lbs, and the value declined from R285·77 lakhs (£1,905,100) to R283·63 lakhs (£1,890,900). The decrease of 2·54 per cent in quantity and of ·7 per

cent in value shows that the average value rose by 2 per cent. The United Kingdom took nearly 99 per cent of the exports, her value being R280·1 lakhs (£1,867,300) in place of R277·63 lakhs (£1,850,900) in 1909-10; but the United States took wool only to the value of R1·19 lakhs (£7,900) against R6·9 lakhs (£46,000) in 1909-10. Japan as a buyer has disappeared altogether. A good deal of the wool dealt with in these figures comes from beyond the land frontiers of India; but the figures do not include re-exports of wool received by sea. These in 1910-11 rose from R28·8 lakhs (£192,000) to R29·48 lakhs (£196,500) in value.

**Other principal raw materials** exported have, in the last three years, been as follows:—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Animal bones | 51,78,520 = | 345,235 | 54,01,642 = | 360,109 | 54,25,407 = | 361,694 |
| Bristles and fibre | 20,52,121 | 136,808 | 23,18,532 | 154,569 | 24,06,551 | 160,437 |
| Caoutchouc | 3,19,039 | 21,269 | 5,09,904 | 33,994 | 15,96,748 | 106,450 |
| Hemp | 59,68,378 | 397,892 | 59,56,928 | 397,128 | 61,47,287 | 409,819 |
| Horn and hornmeal | 15,64,058 | 104,271 | 19,38,396 | 129,226 | 23,45,043 | 156,336 |
| Lac (stick and seed) | 5,88,612 | 39,241 | 2,38,319 | 15,888 | 3,50,119 | 23,341 |
| Mica | 19,02,505 | 126,834 | 23,24,675 | 154,978 | 28,34,752 | 188,983 |
| Oil-cake (fodder and manure) | 89,64,118 | 597,608 | 83,00,480 | 553,365 | 83,93,904 | 559,594 |
| Rice-bran | 64,01,973 | 426,798 | 66,65,779 | 444,385 | 68,10,738 | 454,049 |

Of these, **oilcakes** form the most important item and one that shows continued growth. The increase recorded is one of R93,424 (£6,228) or **1·12** per cent. **Rice-bra** occupies the second place, and has advanced by R1·45 lakhs (£9,700) or 2·2 per cent. **Hemp** shows a rise of R1·9 lakhs (£12,700) or **3·2** per cent. The trade in **Bones** maintains the level of previous years at R54·25 lakhs (£361,700). **Horns** advanced by R4·07 lakhs (£27,100) or 20·98 per cent, and **Bristles and fibre**, etc. advanced by R88,019 (£5,868) or 3·8 per cent.

The others form a group of articles in which typically modern industrie**s** are interested. rose by R5·1 lakhs (£34,000) or 21·9 per cent in attendance on that activity in the electrical industry which is reflected in the machinery returns. Crude **Lac** is also concerned in the electrical industry and in others that have been recovering from trade depression, and its figures rose by R1·12 lakhs (£7,500) or 46·9 per cent. The chapter upon exports of manufactured lac may be referred to. The development in **Caoutchouc** was remarkable and amounted to R10·87 lakhs (£72, 500) or 21·3 per cent.

## ARTICLES MANUFACTURED AND PARTLY MANUFACTURED

The statement below shows for the past five years the comparative value of each principal class of manufactures, the **unit in all cases being 1,000:**

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| Jute goods | 15,71,62 = | 10,477 | 18,29,76 = | 12,198 | 15,73,60 = | 10,491 | 17,09,65 = | 11,398 | 16,99,45 = | 11,330 |
| Cotton yarn and goods | 12,16,82 | 8,112 | 10,76,66 | 7,178 | 11,53,72 | 7,691 | 11,91,56 | 7 944 | 11,01,20 | 7,341 |
| Tanned hides and skins | 4,45,12 | 2,967 | 3,89,97 | 2,600 | 4,12,85 | 2 752 | 3,96,86 | 2,646 | 4,09,06 | 2,727 |
| Lac | 3,37,11 | 2,247 | 3,87,71 | 2,585 | 2,73,58 | 1,824 | 2,74,78 | 1,832 | 2,10,78 | 1,405 |
| Coir | 56,00 | 373 | 53,64 | 358 | 62,75 | 418 | 72,86 | 486 | 69,54 | 464 |
| Woollens | 22,93 | 153 | 27,19 | 181 | 25,95 | 167 | 24,06 | 160 | 27,08 | 181 |
| Apparel | 19,57 | 130 | 20,24 | 135 | 16,71 | 111 | 16,47 | 110 | 19,13 | 127 |
| Candles | 14,21 | 95 | 15,48 | 103 | 13,65 | 91 | 13,20 | 88 | 15,36 | 102 |
| Silks | 6,86 | 46 | 8,31 | 55 | 7,33 | 49 | 8,17 | 54 | 7,69 | 51 |

These represent 18·05 per cent of the total value of all exports. **Jute goods** constitute the principal item and its total has declined by R10·2 lakhs (£68,000) or ·6 per cent. The effects of dear cotton appear in the shrinkage of ship-

ments of **cotton yarn and goods** by no less than R90·36 lakhs (£602,400) or 7·6 per cent. **Tanned hides and skins** improved by R12·2 lakhs (£81,300) or 3·07 per cent; but **Lac** declined by R64 lakhs (£426,700) or 23·3 per cent and **Coir** by R3·32 lakhs (£22,100) or 4·56 per cent. **Candles** are manufactured in India on a considerable scale, and the exports increased in 1910-11 by R2·15 lakhs (£14,300) or 16·3 per cent. Indian **woollens** profited by the boom that has occurred in the world's woollen trade in the past year, and the value of the exports rose by R3·02 lakhs (£20,100) or 12·6 per cent; but **silks** show a small decline of R48,300 (£3,200). It should be remembered, in drawing any conclusions from the figures, that there are in the accounts many manufactured and partly manufactured articles which are not included in this group. They are, from their nature, more properly included in the other groups of articles. For examples, milled-rice, wheat-flour, coffee, and tea are included in the group, "Articles of Food and Drink;" machinery is included in the group, "Metals," saltpetre in "Chemicals," opium and tobacco in "Narcotics," indigo in "Dyes," and vegetable and mineral oils under the group "Oils." The group, "Articles manufactured and partly manufactured" comprises such manufactured and partly manufactured articles as cannot be included under one or other of the main groups of articles.

**Cotton manufactures** represent 29·8 per cent of the total value of Indian manufactures exported and 5·4 per cent of the whole export trade. The ruling factor in the trade in 1910-11 was the high price of cotton, and this subject is gone into fully in the section relating to exports of raw cotton. Otherwise, conditions were favourable; for successive harvests had been abundant and had been marketed at high rates. The General Summary contains a rough indication of the extent to which the purchasing power of the people had probably improved. But the high rates for yarns imposed risk as well as an immediate burden on the hand-weaver to whom yarn is a raw material; and the thrifty Indian people naturally purchased no more cloth than was indispensable. The spinning section of the industry fared very ill in India as in all other countries. While concerted short-time failed, large curtailment of production was in fact brought about by enforced stoppage; and at one time there were some twenty-two mills shut down in Bombay alone. A calculation, based on the outturn of yarn in the twelve months in relation to the number of spindles in position, shows that the activity of the whole industry was about 69·53 per cent of its capacity. But for the weaving sheds, many other mills would have been closed; but the demand for Indian cloths was good—especially in the latter part of the year—and those concerns that had looms as well as spindles were able to work to a profit or at least without loss. The year's experience has in fact thoroughly justified the recommendations that have been pressed upon Indian mill masters to increase their weaving power. The yarn trade with China was handicapped not only by the high prices but by severe famine in some parts of that country. Moreover the *tael* exchange was on the whole on a higher level than in the previous year and was harder towards the end of the year than at the beginning. It opened at about R176 (£11 14*s.* 8*d.*) per 100 taels, touched R179 (£11 18*s.* 8*d.*) on the 14th May, and R181 (£12 1*s.* 4*d.*) on the 12th June, dropped back to R177 (£11 16*s.*) by the 6th August, then climbed to R181 (£12 1*s.* 4*d.*) on the 17th September. In October a rapid advance took place and R190 (£12 13*s.* 4*d.*) was touched on the 19th October, but from that time to the end of the year a decline set in and on

a small recovery in March the rate closed at ₹179 (£11 18*s*. 8*d*.). There is no immediate prospect of cheap cotton, and the outlook of the spinning industry remains poor ; but some gauge of the public estimation of the position is afforded by the fact that a calculation based upon the share values of fifty spinning and weaving companies shows the value per ₹100 of share capital at the end of March in each of the last four years to have been as follows : 1908, ₹119 (£7 18*s*. 8*d*.) ; 1909, ₹118 (£7 17*s*. 4*d*.) ; 1910, ₹112 (£7 9*s*. 4*d*.) ; 1911, ₹104 (£6 18*s*. 8*d*.). The joint stock capital engaged in the industry is ₹16·26 crores (£10,840,000) as compared with ₹15·44 crores (£10,293,300) in 1909-10. In the same period, the number of mills has grown from 233 to 243, the number of spindles from 6,111,535 to 6,275,271 and the number of looms from 79,300 to 83,693, but the number of hands employed has fallen from 231,850 to 230,596. The average production of yarn per mensem has declined from 52,280,373 lbs to 50,692,188 lbs. The rates of increase have therefore been as follows: Capital 5·3 per cent, spindles 2·7 per cent, and looms 5·5 per cent, while labour and production of yarn declined by 5 per cent and 3·04 per cent, respectively.

The following statement shows for each of the last five years the spinning and weaving plant in position, the production of yarn and of cloth, and the average monthly production per thousand spindles and per loom :—

| | Spindles | Yarn production | Average monthly production per 1,000 spindles | Looms | Cloth production | Average monthly production per loom |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No | lbs | lbs | No | lbs | lbs |
| 1906-07 . | 5,480,524 | 653,700,460 | 10,047 | 58,240 | 165,767,858 | 237 |
| 1907-08 . | 5,696,994 | 638,295,115 | 9,407 | 64,330 | 189,051,729 | 245 |
| 1908-09 . | 5,875,798 | 657,585,159 | 9,370 | 72,931 | 192,364,697 | 220 |
| 1909-10 . | 6,111,535 | 627,364,476 | 8,562 | 79,300 | 228,723,227 | 240 |
| 1910-11 . | 6,275,271 | 608,306,258 | 8,078 | 83,693 | 241,841,802 | 244 |

The production per 1,000 spindles and per loom in the year under review was 69·53 per cent and 71·16 per cent respectively of the estimated productive capacity.

The following statement shows the quantities and values of yarn and piecegoods exported in the last five years, **the unit being 1,000** :—

| | Yarn | | | Piecegoods | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | lbs | ₹ | £ | Yards | ₹ | £ |
| 1906-07 . | 243,517 | 10,39,65 = | 6,931 | 76,699 | 1,65,37 = | 1,102 |
| 1907-08 . | 215,576 | 8,97,30 | 5,982 | 74,128 | 1,63,75 | 1,092 |
| 1908-09 . | 235,469 | 9,68,05 | 6,454 | 77,989 | 1,70,36 | 1,136 |
| 1909-10 . | 227,364 | 9,70,91 | 6,473 | 94,137 | 2,04,15 | 1,361 |
| 1910-11 . | 183,425 | 8,62,40 | 5,749 | 99,790 | 2,20,39 | 1,469 |

The **Yarn** produced includes the indigenous yarn subsequently woven into cloth. The power-spun yarn retained for consumption in India averages about 435,000,000 lbs. in normal years, but in 1910-11 it seems to have increased to some 444,000,000 lbs. Of this about 92 per cent is usually Indian yarn and 8 per cent imported. It has been seen that the production of yarn was less by 3·04 per cent than in 1909-10. The total decrease in production was 19,058,000 lbs ; and the depression of the export business is shown by the fact that 43,939,000 lbs less were shipped than in the previous year, the decline being 19·3 per cent. The production of cloth shows progress fully commensurate with the additions to plant. The total is the largest on record, and the increase amounts to 75,460,000 yards or 7·8 per cent. But the increase in exports is only 5,653,000 yards, showing the quantity consumed in India itself to have grown by some 69,807,000 yards.

In value, yarn represents 78·3 per cent of the total exports of cotton goods; and it has shown a net decline of ₹108·5 lakhs (£723,300) or 11·2 per cent to ₹862·41 lakhs (£5,749,400). The exports to China represent 85·6 per cent of the total value as against 87·2 per cent in 1909-10; and they showed a decrease of ₹108·7 lakhs (£724,700) or 12·84 per cent to ₹737·94 lakhs (£4,919,600) The quantity of yarn shipped from the United Kingdom to the Further East in the calendar year 1910 was 2·5 millions of lbs as against 6·88 millions of lbs in 1909.

India's exports of yarn to countries other than China fell away by 2,476,875 lbs in quantity, but increased by ₹19,085 (£1,272) to ₹124·46 lakhs (£829,700) in value. The figures relating to the Straits Settlements shared this decline and fell by ₹5·47 lakhs (£36,500) to ₹24·11 lakhs (£160,700).

The trade with the Levant and Black Sea amounted to 7,550,040 lbs valued at ₹35·59 lakhs (£237,300), as against 8,084,942 lbs valued at ₹34·38 lakhs (£229,200) in 1909-10. Turkey in Europe took 105,600 lbs valued at ₹45,065 (£3,004), against 52,840 lbs and ₹21,216 (£1,414) in 1909-10. The shipments to Egypt advanced from 2,096,916 lbs to 2,967,696 lbs with a value of ₹14·46 lakhs (£96,400). It may be mentioned that in 1910 Egypt's imports of cotton yarns from England declined by 900,600 lbs; her imports from British Oriental Possessions (really India) increased by 1,406,500 lbs and surpassed the arrivals from England by some 831,000 lbs. Shipments to Europe have fallen from 1,782,910 lbs to 1,263,777 lbs.

In value the increase in exports of **piece goods** was one of 7·9 per cent or ₹16·23 lakhs (£108,200) to ₹220·39 lakhs (£1,469,300), the specific value rising by 1·9 per cent.

**Grey goods** represent 38·4 per cent of the piece goods in value and 56·4 per cent in quantity; and in that branch the trade increased by 6·4 per cent in quantity and 10·1 per cent in value, bringing the total to 56,379,644 yards and ₹84·75 lakhs (£565,000), with a specific value 3·4 per cent higher than in the previous year. The shipments of grey goods to China receded from 5,283,414 yards to 1,920,908 yards and from ₹7·14 lakhs (£47,600) to ₹2·66 lakhs (£17,700), the decrease being 63·6 per cent in quantity and 62·7 per cent in value. In 1908, the shipments of plain cotton cloth from England to the Further East amounted to 430·1 million yards as compared with 596 millions in 1909, but the principal foreign markets for Indian grey cloth are East Africa (with 18,359,832 yards), Asiatic Turkey (18,873,752 yards), and Aden (8,083,713 yards).

The rise in **coloured goods** was continued, but it amounted only to 5·2 per cent, and the total of 42,968,502 yards was little higher than the figure of a year earlier.

**Dyed and printed** cloths go mainly from Madras and Bombay to the Straits and Ceylon; and the shipments in 1910-11 from the two ports named had a value of ₹90·86 lakhs (£605,700) and ₹41·68 lakhs (£277,900) respectively.

The shipments of Indian piece goods by sea from Bombay Presidency to other parts of India declined by 8,381,000 yards or 3·2 per cent to 247,699,000 yards, while the value advanced by ₹1·8 lakhs (£12,000) or ·4 per cent to ₹419 lakhs (£2,793,000). The despatches by rail from the Bombay port were 116,516 cwts as compared with 180,241 cwts in 1909-10.

**Prices** in 1909-10 had held fairly good, with T. cloths moving from $8\frac{5}{8}$ annas (or pence) to 9 annas (or pence), and with 20s twist averaging $6\frac{47}{40}$ annas (or pence) in April 1909 and $7\frac{43}{64}$ annas (or pence) in March 1910. In the year under review, however, the price of cloth was high. T. cloths opened at $9\frac{1}{8}$ annas (or pence) and closed at $10\frac{1}{2}$ annas (or pence); and 20s yarns advanced from $8\frac{3}{40}$ to $8\frac{13}{40}$ annas (or pence).

**Jute manufactures,** in the three years ending 1909-10, represented 44·8 per cent of the total value of exports of Indian manufactured articles. In 1910-11 this percentage rose to 46; but it will be seen that this is due to the contraction recorded in other lines.

High prices for the raw material together with a sluggish American demand not fully accounted for by the enhanced rates or by American crop statistics have rendered 1910-11 a bad year for makers of jute goods. The facts relating to the raw material will be found in the article that deals with exports of raw jute. Excepting to those mills that were peculiarly fortunate in their purchases, manufacture has been unprofitable, heavy losses have been incurred, and restricted production has been in many cases unavoidable as the lesser of two evils. These conditions were not peculiar to India, but were experienced by Dundee and in the United States. The average price of jute bags (A.T. $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs) in Calcutta in 1909-10 was ₹23-10-2 (£1 11*s.* $9\frac{1}{6}$*d.*) per 100. In 1910-11 it was ₹25-6-4 (£1 13*s.* $10\frac{1}{3}$*d.*). Prices of Hessian cloth ($10\frac{1}{2}$oz. 40″) per 100 yards were as follows:—in 1909-10, ₹9-7-1 (12*s.* 7*d.*) and in 1910-11, ₹9-8-3 (12*s.* $8\frac{1}{4}$*d.*). The opening, closing, highest and lowest rates during the year under review were as follows:—

| | Bags (per 100.) | | | | Cloth (yer 100 pards.) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | A. | £ | *s* *d* | ₹ | A. | *s* | *d* |
| Opening . . | 24 | 0 = | 1 | 12 0 | 8 | 15 = | 11 | 11 |
| Highest . . | 28 | 8 | 1 | 18 0 | 11 | 4 | 15 | 0 |
| Lowest . . | 23 | 0 | 1 | 10 8 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 5 |
| Closing . . | 28 | 8 | 1 | 18 0 | 11 | 4 | 15 | 0 |

The increased production renders it more and more difficult to secure remunerative rates.

The following statement shows the growth in the number of jute spindles and looms in position in India in the last six years:

| | Spindles | | Looms | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | Percentage increase | Number | Percentage increase |
| 1905-06 . | 453,168 | 10·75 | 21,986 | 9·98 |
| 1906-07 . | 520,504 | 14·86 | 25,284 | 15 |
| 1907-08 . | 562,274 | 8·02 | 27,244 | 7·75 |
| 1908-09 . | 607,358 | 8·02 | 29,525 | 8·37 |
| 1909-10 . | 645,862 | 6·34 | 31,418 | 6·41 |
| 1910-11 . | 713,336* | 10·45 | 34,773* | 10·68 |

In 1884 when the Indian Jute Mills Association was formed, the number of looms was only 6,337. If reference be made to the article that deals with imports of Machinery, it will be seen that a check has been put on extensions, and the position of the industry may be partly gauged by the fact that the value per ₹100 (£6 13*s.* 4*d.*) face value of share capital invested in jute mills has in recent years been as follows:—1907-08, ₹131 (£8 14*s.* 8*d.*); 1908-09, ₹129 (£8 12*s.* 0*d.*); 1909-10, ₹116 (£7 14*s.* 8*d.*); 1910-11, ₹114 (£7 12*s.* 0*d.*)

* Approximate.

The following statement shows for the last five years the value of the exports of various classes of goods, the **unit being 1,000**:—

| | | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bags | No. | 257,683 | 293,029 | 300,906 | 364,369 | 360,880 |
| | ₹ | 7,34,72 | 8,47,51 | 7,76,65 | 8,60,74 | 8,56,40 |
| | £ | 4,898 | 5,650 | 5,178 | 5,738 | 5,709 |
| Cloth | Yards | 696,068 | 789,856 | 769,799 | 940,101 | 955,301 |
| | ₹ | 8,25,87 | 9,69,29 | 7,89,02 | 8,43,08 | 8,35,76 |
| | £ | 5,506 | 6,462 | 5,260 | 5,621 | 5,572 |
| Value of all sorts | ₹ | 15,71,62 | 18,29,76 | 15,73,60 | 17,09,65 | 16,99,45 |
| | £ | 10,477 | 12,198 | 10,491 | 11,398 | 11,330 |

The exports of **Bags** decreased by 3,489,000 or ·96 per cent in number and by ₹4·34 lakhs (£28,900) or ·5 per cent, the difference between these rates arguing a rise of ·5 per cent in specific value.

In **Cloth,** the results were scarcely better; for though we find a rise of more than 15,000,000 yards or 1·6 per cent in quantity, there was a fall of ₹7·32 lakhs (£48,800) or ·9 per cent in value. Here the fall in specific value would appear to be 2·4 per cent. It is interesting at this point to advert to the fact that the specific value of raw jute rose by 17·8 per cent.

The largest single buyer of jute fabrics from India is the United States which takes her supplies mainly as cloth. The value of her purchases in 1910-11 was ₹607·24 lakhs (£4,048,000) as compared with ₹617·15 lakhs (£4,114,000) in the previous year, which marks a drop of 1·6 per cent. Of this total, ₹51·41 lakhs (£342,700) is accounted for by bags, that figure being, however, 9 per cent less than in 1909-10. Australia, including New Zealand, is the largest single purchaser of bags; and the shipments to that destination, at nearly 78,000,000 with a value of ₹218·09 lakhs (£1,453,900), expanded by 14·8 per cent in quantity and 11·8 per cent in value. Shipments to the United Kingdom fell from ₹80·19 lakhs (£534,600) to ₹73·88 lakhs (£492,500), the decline being nearly 8 per cent. Those to Germany also fell off from ₹17·41 lakhs (£116,000) to ₹13·5 lakhs (£90,000); and in this connection reference should be made to her reduced purchases of the raw material. The decline in shipments to Egypt is less marked, but brings her figure to ₹45·6 lakhs (£304,000) in place of ₹46·07 lakhs (£307,100) in 1909-10; Turkey in Europe increased her demand by ₹2·08 lakhs (£13,900) to ₹6·97 lakhs (£46,500). Turkey in Asia with ₹18·89 lakhs (£125,900) also showed an increase. Argentina takes her supplies mainly as cloth of hessian quality for manufacture into grain bags; and the value of her purchases in 1910-11 was ₹146·63 lakhs (£977,500) as compared with ₹172·28 lakhs (£1,148,500) in the previous year. Chile, on the other hand, buys nitrate bags ready made of sacking quality. In 1909-10 she figured for ₹71·12 lakhs (£474,100) under this head; and in the year under review the value rose by 9 per cent to ₹77·55 lakhs (£517,000). Peru also figures with an improved total of ₹9·18 lakhs (£61,200) in place of ₹6·73 lakhs (£44,900) in 1909-10. China's demand shrank from ₹81·15 lakhs (£541,000) in 1909-10 to ₹38·67 lakhs (£257,800) in 1910-11. This movement was accompanied by a contraction of the Straits Settlements figures by some 6·8 per cent to ₹31·9 lakhs (£212,700) and by a drop of nearly 75 per cent in those relating to Japan, which took only ₹4·73 lakhs (£31,500) in place of ₹18·63 lakhs (£124,200) in the previous year. The figure relating to the Straits Settlements

as representing the trade of a distributing centre, may be looked at in relation to those for other points in the same region. Indo-China, with a total of 36·19 lakhs (£241,300), showed an increase of 33·7 per cent; while direct consignments to Java rose by 32 per cent to R34·47 lakhs (£229,800) and those to Siam by 56·4 per cent to R36·46 lakhs (£243,100). The decline in the shipments to West Indies is less marked but brings their figure to R39·45 lakhs (£263,000) in place of R40·53 lakhs (£270,200) in 1909-10. The figures relating to Cape Colony, at R15·62 lakhs (£104,100), shows a small decline on the previous year's figures, while Natal records an advance of R3·8 lakhs (£25,300) to R21·94 lakhs (£146,300).

The export trade in **Cloth** rose to 955,300,737 yards, with a diminished value of R835·76 lakhs (£5,571,700). Of the total, the United States took 69·4 per cent with a value of R555·83 lakhs (£3,705,500) in place of R560·74 lakhs (£3,738,000) in the previous year. The shipments to the Argentine fell off from R172·28 lakhs (£1,148,500) to R146·63 lakhs (£977,500); while Uruguay took only R7·66 lakhs (£51,000) in place of R9·96 lakhs (£66,400) in 1909-10. Consignments to the United Kingdom have picked up in the last two years, and now amount to R42·44 lakhs (£283,000), which is 15·5 per cent more than in 1909-10. Canada increased her demand by R9·11 lakhs (£60,700) to R26·11 lakhs (£174,100). Australia and New Zealand with an amount of R29·5 lakhs (£197,000) shows an advance of R6·09 lakhs (£40,600) or 26 per cent on 1909-10, while the direct trade with China now amounts to R4·35 lakhs (£29,000).

In exports of **Silk manufactures** there has been a decline of 5·9 per cent and their total value is only R7·69 lakhs (£51,300) in place of R8·17 lakhs (£54,500) in 1909-10. The goods are chiefly tissues woven in Bengal from indigenous silks. Elsewhere the industry is conducted mainly for the Indian market; and the absence of exports does not necessarily indicate inactivity. Its scattered and unorganised condition does, however, prevent its commanding attention commercially.

Exports of **woollen manufactures** represent only ·95 per cent of the exports of Indian textile goods. Their total in 1910-11 is more by 12·6 per cent than in the previous year, and has a value of R27·08 lakhs (£180,500) as compared with R24·06 lakhs (£160,400). **Rugs and carpets** form 90·1 per cent of this total; and their value of R24·39 lakhs (£162,600) shows a rise as 14·3 per cent as compared with R21·34 lakhs (£142,300) in 1909-10. The greater part of this expansion of R3·06 lakhs (£20,400) arises from larger demand from the United Kingdom, which took R19·66 lakhs (£131,100) in place of R16·6 lakhs (£110,700) in 1909-10. America has recently been resorting more to the Levantine markets, and her share is now only R2·61 lakhs (£17,400) as against R2·94 lakhs (£19,600) in 1909-10. **Piecegoods** and other miscellaneous manufactures fell away by 1·5 per cent, that is to say, from R2·72 lakhs (£18,100) to R2·68 lakhs (£17,900). The imports of **woollen yarns** rose by 284,454 lbs and by R7·92 lakhs (£52,800); while it may be noted that the production in the Indian woollen mills has been as follows in the last three years:—

| | 1908 | 1909 | 1910 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Quantity lbs | 3,416,000 | 3,955,000 | 4,102,000 |
| Value | R44,00,000=(£293,000) | R43,25,000=(£288,000) | R47,20,000=(£315,000) |

The exports of **Apparel** advanced from R16·47 lakhs (£109,800) to R19·13 lakhs (£127,500), the rise being one of R2·66 lakhs (£17,700) or 16·15 per cent. **Boots and shoes,** which form the most important sub-head in this class, declined from R3·48 lakhs (£23,200) to R3·4 lakhs (£22,700). Re-exports of foreign boots and shoes amounted to R27,100 (£1,807) as compared with R35,237 (£2,349) in 1909-10.

**Coir.**—The trade in coir-matting and other manufactures of coir is almost entirely in the hands of Madras, and the steady growth in the exports has received a check in 1910-11. Their value amounted in 1910-11 to R69·54 lakhs (£463,600) as against R72·86 lakhs (£485,700) in 1909-10, and of this Germany took R22·76 lakhs (£151,700), the United Kingdom R17 lakhs (£113,300), Holland R6·45 lakhs (£43,000), Belgium R5·78 lakhs (£38,500), France R5·56 lakhs (£37,100), and the United States R4·21 lakhs (£28,100).

**Hides and skins, tanned,** on the average of the three years ending 1910-11, represented 31·1 per cent of the total value of all hides and skins exported. The leather trade has been subject to several disturbing conditions in recent years, the most potent being the high price of raw materials and the refusal of consumers to pay better rates for the finished article. The disparity complained of was somewhat diminished in 1910. The imports of leather into the United Kingdom in 1910 showed an increase of 0·9 per cent in quantity and 2·7 per cent in value. The total exports of **tanned hides** and **skins** from India in 1910-11 rose from R396·86 lakhs (£2,645,700) to R409·06 lakhs (£2,727,100). The increase is ascribable entirely to the **tanned skins** section which, as may be seen from the statement below, increased in quantity by 11,055 cwts or 8·4 per cent, and in value by R29·17 lakhs (£194,500) or 11·55 per cent, the rise in specific value being 2·9 per cent. The average value of skins was R197-12-9 (£13 3*s.* 9*d.*) per cwt as against R192-3-8 (£12 16*s.* 4*d.*) in 1909-10. On the other hand, the exports of **tanned hides** receded by 27,987 cwts and R16·97 lakhs (£113,100), the decline being 15·6 per cent in quantity and 11·8 per cent in total value, which marks a rise of 4·6 per cent in specific value. The average value of hides was R84-3-0 (£5 12*s.* 3*d.*) per cwt as against R80-8-2 (£5 7*s.* 4*d.*) in the previous year. It is necessary, however, to remind readers that these two classes of hides and skins comprise many diverse descriptions and qualities, and that these vary in relative quantity from year to year, so that it is not permissible to regard the fluctuations in average value with such reliance as is warranted in the case of a single article or a homogeneous and constant group.

The following is a statement of the total exportation in the two classes in the last six years, **the unit being 1,000** :

| | Tanned Hides | | | | Tanned Skins | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | No. | R | £ | Cwts | No. | R | £ |
| 1905-06 . | 202 | 2,917 | 1,54,80= | 1,032 | 139 | 16,884 | 2,11,04= | 1,407 |
| 1906-07 . | 220 | 3,278 | 1,72,96 | 1,153 | 150 | 18,097 | 2,72,16 | 1,814 |
| 1907-08 . | 132 | 1,894 | 1,05,52 | 703 | 152 | 18,427 | 2,84,45 | 1,896 |
| 1908-09 . | 171 | 2,481 | 1,39,63 | 931 | 143 | 17,859 | 2,73,23 | 1,822 |
| 1909-10 . | 179 | 2,473 | 1,44,37 | 962 | 131 | 16,287 | 2,52,49 | 1,683 |
| 1910-11 . | 151 | 1,743 | 1,27,40 | 849 | 142 | 18,034 | 2,81,66 | 1,878 |

In **tanned hides** Madras predominated and exported 82·3 per cent of the total weight, while Bombay's share was 17·3 per cent. In **tanned skins** also these provinces almost monopolised the trade with 82 per cent and 15·4 per cent respectively.

The United Kingdom continues to take the greater part of the tanned hides and skins. In hides, Britain's share of the total has advanced from 95 per cent to 97·6 per cent; but the total quantity of her purchases contracted from 170,345 cwts to 147,696 cwts in 1910-11. In skins her demand has amounted to 115,174 cwts in place of 101,513 cwts, and her share has advanced to 80·9 per cent as compared with 77·3 per cent in the previous year. The United States have taken 12,798 cwts of skins in place of 15,659 cwts in the previous year. This quantity represents 9 per cent of the total in this class.

**Lac** is an article associated with several industries of recent and rapid development. Consequently the demand for the article has increased greatly, but the sources and the volume of the supply of the raw material are so uncertain and changeable that the trade remains speculative and some of the industries concerned are related to luxury and are sensitive to unfavourable trade conditions. In April 1907 the price of shellac in Calcutta was ₹156-8-5 (£10 8*s*. 8½*d*.) per cwt. The following statement shows the prices per cwt in the last two years:—

| | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ A. P. | £ *s*. *d*. | | ₹ A. P. | £ *s*. *d*. |
| Opening (April) . | 50 5 9 = | 3 7 2 | (April) . . | 45 9 7 = | 3 0 10 |
| Highest (April) . | 50 5 9 | 3 7 2 | (November) . | 59 14 3 | 3 19 10 |
| Lowest (May) . | 43 8 11 | 2 18 1 | (May) . . | 44 3 9 | 2 19 0 |
| Closing (March) . | 45 9 7 | 3 0 10 | (March) . . | 50 5 9 | 3 7 2 |
| Average . . . | 46 3 6 | 3 1 8 | | 51 12 5 | 3 9 0 |

The average price therefore was 12 per cent higher than in 1909-10 and only 48·2 per cent of the average (₹107-4-10=£7 3*s*. 0⅝*d*.) recorded in 1907-08.

The crop of 1910 was short of that gathered in 1909 but larger than those of the two previous years. The raw material is more firmly held than formerly; and although manufacture offered a small profit in the earlier part of the year it was unremunerative in the second half. The following statement shows the shipments of the past two years. Strictly, only the manufactured articles, shell and button lac, should be discussed in this section; but since these are really raw materials, it is interesting to collate the figures relating to the two branches of the trade.

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ | Cwts | ₹ | £ |
| Shellac . . | 322,953 | 2,46,51,307 | =1,643,420 | 461,056 | 2,46,42,640 | =1,642,843 | 357,940 | 1,92,92,267 | =1,286,151 |
| Button lac . . | 31,415 | 23,33,005 | 155,534 | 49,455 | 25,40,259 | 169,350 | 31,278 | 15,87,205 | 105,814 |
| TOTAL . . | 354,368 | 2,69,84,312 | 1,798,954 | 510,511 | 2,71,82,899 | 1,812,193 | 389,218 | 2,08,79,472 | 1,391,965 |
| Stick and seed lac | 8,630 | 5,88,612 | 39,241 | 7,470 | 2,38,319 | 15,888 | 6,622 | 3,50,119 | 23,341 |

A given quantity of stick lac such as is exported may be taken as yielding less than fifty per cent shell or button lac. It is understood that considerable progress is being made in the processes of manufacture, in the use of solvents some of which eliminate the undesirable dye-matter, in the application of centrifugal separation and in the recovery of lac from waste. The exports of **Shellac** declined by 22·4 per cent in quantity and by 21·7 per cent in the total value, which discrepancy argues a minute recovery in specific value. **Buttton lac** contracted by 36·7 per cent in quantity and 37·5 per cent in total value, the fall in its specific value being 1·2 per cent. On the average of the last three years the **two classes** of manufactured lac represent respectively about 91 per cent and 9 per cent of the total. In the year under review

they fell together by 23·7 per cent in quantity and 23·2 per cent in value On the other hand, the exports of the crude material, stick lac and seed lac dropped by 11·4 per cent to a level lower than has been seen since 1904-05; but the increase of 47 per cent in total value marks a rise of nearly 65·8 per cent in specific value. But this may well be accounted for by the presence of a larger proportion of seed lac as compared with stick lac, seeing that stick yields only about 65 per cent of seed and is priced accordingly.

The **United States** maintain their position as the principal buyers of shellac and button lac but with a total value of only R86·76 lakhs (£578,400) as compared with R122·98 lakhs (£819,900) in 1909-10. The **United Kingdom** reduced her demand from R67·75 lakhs (£451,700) to R56·4 lakhs (£376,000), while **Germany** took R33·83 lakhs (£225,500) in place of R46·08 lakhs (£307,200) in 1909-10. The shares of these three countries in the trade were therefore 41·6 per cent, 27 per cent, and 16·2 per cent respectively.

**General distribution of the export trade**—The shares borne by the principal countries of destination in the exports of merchandise from India in the last five years have been as follows :—

| | 1906-07 per cent | 1907-08 per cent | 1908-09 per cent | 1909-10 per cent | 1910-11 per cent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Kingdom | 27·1 | 25·9 | 24·0 | 26·4 | 24·9 |
| China | 10·9 | 8·6 | 12·0 | 10·0 | 9·3 |
| Germany | 11·4 | 11·7 | 10·0 | 9·7 | 9·0 |
| France | 6·5 | 6·6 | 6·4 | 6·5 | 7·6 |
| United States | 9·0 | 7·8 | 8·8 | 7·7 | 6·5 |
| Japan | 4·1 | 5·1 | 4·8 | 6·8 | 6·3 |
| Belgium | 4·2 | 5·3 | 4·0 | 5·5 | 5·3 |
| Ceylon | 3·7 | 3·6 | 3·9 | 3·7 | 3·9 |
| Italy | 3·3 | 3·2 | 3·3 | 3·3 | 3·8 |
| Straits Settlements | 3·8 | 3·9 | 3·5 | 3·3 | 3·7 |
| Austria-Hungary | 3·5 | 3·7 | 3·1 | 3·5 | 3·4 |
| Egypt | 1·1 | 1·1 | 1·6 | 1·0 | 2·8 |

The total value in 1910-11 was R204·87 crores (£136,580,000) in place of R184·5 crores (£123,000,000) in 1909-10, the increase being about 11 per cent. Although exports to the **United Kingdom** rose from R48·68 crores (£32,453,300) to R50·96 crores (£33,973,300), the increase was only at the rate of 4·7 per cent with the result that her share in the total fell by 1·5 per cent. **Germany's** share also declined in spite of the fact that her total increased from R17·89 crores (£11,926,700) to R18·51 crores (£12,340,000). But some goods for Germany are shipped to **Belgium**, and for this reason it is well that the latter's increased total of R10·77 crores (£7,180,000) in place of R10·17crores (£6,780,000) in 1909-10, should be bracketed mentally with that for Germany. The large exports of opium and rice to **China** and the higher prices of the former helped to raise her total from R18·48 crores (£12,320,000) to R19·15 crores (£12,766,700), but her percentage declined by ·7; while hides and skins account to a considerable extent for the decline of the **United States** from R14·31 crores (£9,540,000) to R13·35 crores (£8,900,000) with a resultant loss of 1·2 per cent in her share. The large shipments of wheat and oilseeds accounted for the rise from R11·94 crores (£7,960,000) to R15·57 crores (£10,380,000) shown by the exports to **France**; and those of food grains and skins to **Japan** helped to raise her total to R12·92 crores (£8,613,300) in place of

₹12·6 crores (£8,400,000) in 1909-10. Exports to **Ceylon** were ₹8 crores (£5,333,300) as compared with ₹6·88 crores (£4,586,000) in 1909-10, and those to the **Straits Settlements** rose from ₹6·01 crores (£4,006,700) to ₹7·69 crores (£5,126,700). **Italy's** total was ₹7·8 crores (£5,200,000) in place of ₹6 crores (£4,000,000) in 1909-10. **Austria-Hungary** advanced from ₹6·48 crores (£4,320,000) to ₹7·05 crores (£4,700,000), but **Egypt**, with ₹5·68 crores (£3,786,700) in place of ₹1·8 crores (£1,200,000) in the previous year, showed an advance which may be reduced on receipt of advices as to the ultimate destinations of cargoes sent to that country "to await orders".

## TRADE ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

The following statement shows in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling** the value of the trade of British India in private merchandise with the several main divisions of the world:—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Europe . . . . | 1,78,15,24= | 118,768 | 1,97,02,60= | 131,351 | 2,16,51,00= | 144,340 |
| Asia . . . . | 61,90,22 | 41,268 | 72,52,19 | 48,348 | 82,13,53 | 54,757 |
| America . . . | 20,69,31 | 13,795 | 22,05,30 | 14,702 | 21,02,89 | 14,019 |
| Africa and adjacent islands | 9,51,35 | 6,343 | 8,97,48 | 5,983 | 13,84,25 | 9,228 |
| Australasia . . . | 4,03,25 | 2,688 | 4,36,69 | 2,911 | 4,97,68 | 3,318 |
| Total . | 2,74,29,37 | 182,862 | 3,04,94,26 | 203,295 | 3,38,49,35 | 225,662 |

The trade with **Europe** (which now represents 64 per cent of the total as compared with 64·6 per cent in the previous year) increased by ₹19·49 crores (£12,993,400) or 9·9 per cent. That with **Asia** rose by ₹961·34 lakhs (£6,408,900) or by 13·3 per cent; and as this rate of increase is the highest recorded, her share in the total rose from 23·8 per cent to 24·3 per cent. **America** stands third in order of importance, having accounted for 6·2 per cent of the total trade; and here there is a decline of ₹102·41 lakhs (£682,700) or 4·6 per cent. Trade with the *United States* represents 80·5 per cent of the American total. **Africa**, on the other hand, showed an improvement of ₹486·77 lakhs (£3,245,100), while **Australasia** added nearly ₹61 lakhs (£406,700) to her steadily increasing record. Of the trade with Europe, ₹117·6 crores (£7,840,000) or 54 per cent were exports, while ₹98·9 crores (£6,593,300) or 46 per cent consisted of imports. The trade with Asia consisted of 73 per cent exports and 27 per cent imports. Exports to America represented 83·4 per cent of the American total. Africa took nearly thrice as much and Australasia three and a half times as much as they severally supplied.

Trade with the **United Kingdom** rose from ₹12,262 lakhs (£81,746,700) to ₹13,085 lakhs (£87,233,300), the increase being ₹823 lakhs (£5,486,600) or 6·7 per cent. Her share in the total trade was 38·7 per cent and her share in the trade with all British Possessions was 73·4 per cent.

The trade with **British Possessions other than the United Kingdom** was ₹4,730·15 lakhs (£31,534,300) in place of ₹4,104·76 lakhs (£27,365,100). That figure forms 14 per cent of the total trade and marks a rise of 15·2 per cent as compared with the previous year.

The trade with **all British Possessions** represented 52·7 per cent of the whole trade and increased by 8·8 per cent, that is to say, from ₹16,366·9 lakhs (£109,112,700) to ₹17,814·86 lakhs (£118,765,700).

Trade with **foreign countries** represented 47·4 per cent of the whole trade, and increased by 13 5 per cent: that is to say, from ₹14,127·36 lakhs (£94,182,400) to ₹16,034·49 lakhs (£106,896,600).

The following statement shows India's trade with **each principal country** in the last three years, the **unit being one thousand**:—

| | 1908-09 | | | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | per cent | ₹ | £ | per cent | ₹ | £ | per cent |
| United Kingdom | 112,74,01= | 75,160 | 41·1 | 122,62,14= | 81,748 | 40·2 | 130,84,71= | 87,231 | 38·7 |
| Germany | 20,28,37 | 13,523 | 7·4 | 22,10,29 | 14,735 | 7·2 | 23,71,66 | 15,811 | 7 |
| China | 20,45,44 | 13,636 | 7·5 | 20,88,89 | 13,926 | 6·8 | 21,74,87 | 14,499 | 6·4 |
| France | 11,45,47 | 7,636 | 4·2 | 13,76,56 | 9,177 | 4·5 | 17,70,85 | 11,806 | 5·2 |
| United States | 16,49,83 | 10,999 | 6 | 17,99,63 | 11,998 | 5·9 | 16,92,09 | 11,281 | 5 |
| Belgium | 11,39,20 | 7,595 | 4·1 | 14,76,23 | 9,842 | 4·8 | 16,56,44 | 11,043 | 4·9 |
| Japan | 9,30,54 | 6,204 | 3·4 | 15,10,13 | 10,068 | 5 | 16,27,24 | 10,848 | 4·8 |
| Java | 6,77,83 | 4,519 | 2·5 | 9,35,13 | 6,234 | 3·1 | 12,52,19 | 8,348 | 3·7 |
| Straits Settlements | 8,88,65 | 5,924 | 3·2 | 9,11,43 | 6,076 | 3 | 10,84,37 | 7,229 | 3·2 |
| Austria-Hungary | 8,73,23 | 5,822 | 3·2 | 9,24,14 | 6,161 | 3 | 10,25,17 | 6,834 | 3 |
| Italy | 6,22,02 | 4,147 | 2·3 | 7,19,45 | 4,796 | 2·3 | 9,39,78 | 6,265 | 2·8 |
| Ceylon | 6,68,41 | 4,456 | 2·4 | 7,75,00 | 5,167 | 2·5 | 8,92,42 | 5,949 | 2·6 |
| Egypt | 2,71,91 | 1,813 | 1 | 2,09,32 | 1,395 | ·7 | 5,99,15 | 3,994 | 1·8 |
| Australia | 3,38,82 | 2,259 | 1·2 | 3,67,46 | 2,450 | 1·2 | 4,36,47 | 2,910 | 1·3 |
| Mauritius | 3,74,64 | 2,498 | 1·4 | 3,58,73 | 2,392 | 1·2 | 4,32,88 | 2,886 | 1·3 |
| Turkey, Asiatic | 2,62,22 | 1,748 | 1 | 2,76,04 | 1,840 | ·9 | 3,21,46 | 2,143 | ·9 |
| South America | 3,28,18 | 2,188 | 1·2 | 2,88,86 | 1,926 | ·9 | 2,72,12 | 1,814 | ·8 |
| Holland | 2,66,24 | 1,775 | 1 | 3,35,87 | 2,239 | 1·1 | 2,67,95 | 1,786 | ·8 |
| Russia | 1,31,70 | 878 | ·5 | 1,02,45 | 683 | ·3 | 1,88,53 | 1,257 | ·6 |
| Spain | 1,53,70 | 1,025 | ·6 | 1,52,34 | 1,016 | ·5 | 1,83,36 | 1,222 | ·5 |
| Persia | 1,40,14 | 934 | ·5 | 1,63,64 | 1,091 | ·5 | 1,77,75 | 1,185 | ·5 |
| Aden | 1,29,32 | 862 | ·5 | 1,31,69 | 878 | ·4 | 1,41,09 | 941 | ·4 |
| Arabia | 1,06,80 | 712 | ·4 | 1,25,92 | 839 | ·4 | 1,29,06 | 860 | ·4 |

The system of recording imports according to countries of true origin and exports in accordance with final destination has been in force for some years and has rendered three years' retrospect possible, but some of the figures relating to 1910-11 in the foregoing statement are subject to rectification.

It will be seen that Germany is again in the second place with 7 per cent of the total. Her aggregate consists of 78·3 per cent exports and 21·7 per cent imports. The increase is ₹161·37 lakhs (£1,075,800), of which 61·4 per cent was contributed by the import section. China retains the third place with an increase of ₹85·98 lakhs (£573,200). This is mainly due to an increase of ₹233 lakhs (£1,553,300) in opium plus ₹26 lakhs (£173,300) in rice, offset by declines of ₹114 lakhs (£760,000) in cotton goods and ₹67 lakhs (£446,700) in raw cotton. France added ₹394·29 lakhs (£2,628,600) to her Indian trade, which consists of 88·2 per cent exports and 11·8 per cent imports, and so took precedence of the United States whose total declined by ₹107·54 lakhs (£716,900), the aggregate comprising 79·4 per cent exports and 20·6 per cent imports. Belgium showed an expansion of ₹180·21 lakhs (£1,201,400). Holland—possibly as a result of more correct recording of German trade—lost ₹67·92 lakhs (£452,800) of the figure for the previous year. Japan's total rose by ₹117·11 lakhs (£780,700) in consequence of increased demand for rice and pulse; and Java also shows a marked rise of ₹317·06 lakhs (£2,113,700) constituted by large exports of rice and pulse and heavy imports of sugar.

## CUSTOMS REVENUE

The **Tariff Schedule** showing valuation of commodities for the assessment to import duty is revised annually in November-December and the revised

schedule comes into force on the 1st January. The list of cotton goods recognised as piecegoods is revised at the same time and valuations of Indian cotton goods for Excise purposes are fixed.

The only important Customs measure instituted during the year was the Indian Tariff Amendment Act, VI of 1911, by which duty on tobacco manufactured and unmanufactured was reduced by one-third.

The **gross revenue** from imports increased from R589·59 lakhs (£3,930,600) to R808·59 lakhs (£5,390,600), the increase being one of R219 lakhs (£1,460,000) or 37·1 per cent. This is the largest sum of Customs Revenue on record. **Refunds and drawbacks** amounted to R10·54 lakhs (£70,300) in place of R9·28 lakhs (£61,800) in 1909-10. **Net revenue** therefore rose from R580·31 lakhs (£3,869,000) to R798·05 lakhs (£5,320,000). This represents an increase of R217·74 lakhs (£1,451,600) or 37·5 per cent. Revenue from **salt** is not included in these figures, for it is not treated as a Customs receipt. It amounted to R128·99 lakhs (£859,900) against R141·67 lakhs (£944,500) in the previous year.

The following statement shows the revenue derived in the last three years from the principal dutiable articles :—

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| *Arms, Ammunition* . . | 5,21,749 = | 34,783 | 4,82,063 = | 32,138 | 5,00,007 = | 33,334 |
| *Articles of food and drink*— | | | | | | |
| Fruits and vegetables | 5,42,788 | 36,186 | 5,14,317 | 34,288 | 5,63,108 | 37,541 |
| Spirits . . . | 95,268,81 | 635,125 | 95,57,087 | 637,139 | 1,06,87,404 | 712,494 |
| Wines . . . | 3,96,698 | 26,447 | 4,12,197 | 27,479 | 5,70,992 | 38,066 |
| Sugar . . . | 51,56,846 | 343,790 | 56,77,251 | 378,483 | 62,89,229 | 419,282 |
| Provisions . . | 9,57,766 | 63,851 | 9,45,206 | 63,014 | 9,94,483 | 66,299 |
| Spices . . . | 7,97,783 | 53,186 | 6,75,229 | 45,015 | 7,70,967 | 51,398 |
| *Chemicals, drugs, narcotics, and dyes*— | | | | | | |
| Drugs, medicines, and narcotics . . | 7,09,365 | 47,291 | 9,50,601 | 63,373 | 34,40,133 | 229,342 |
| Chemicals . . | 4,41,225 | 29,415 | 4,50,887 | 30,059 | 4,75,776 | 31,718 |
| Dyes and tans . . | 5,43,032 | 36,202 | 5,76,938 | 38,463 | 7,43,986 | 49,599 |
| *Metals and articles made of metals*— | | | | | | |
| Hardware and cutlery | 16,40,351 | 109,357 | 15,59,109 | 103,941 | 18,37,499 | 122,500 |
| Copper and brass . | 14,68,472 | 97,898 | 14,13,122 | 94,208 | 18,61,315 | 124,088 |
| Iron and steel . . | 10,32,494 | 68,833 | 10,16,961 | 67,797 | 10,22,868 | 68,191 |
| Silver . . . | 63,64,131 | 424,275 | 53,46,980 | 356,465 | 1,62,40,213 | 1,082,681 |
| *Oils*— | | | | | | |
| Petroleum . . | 53,25,734 | 355,049 | 46,87,884 | 312,526 | 59,63,542 | 397,569 |
| *Manufactures of cotton*— | | | | | | |
| Piecegoods : grey (unbleached) . . | 52,20,078 | 348,005 | 60,02,440 | 400,163 | 59,90,571 | 399,371 |
| Piecegoods : white (bleached) . . | 27,12,401 | 180,827 | 26,73,950 | 178,263 | 33,55,187 | 223,679 |
| Piecegoods : coloured | 33 13,966 | 220,931 | 30,93,416 | 206,228 | 40,70,947 | 271,396 |
| Hosiery and all other manufactured cotton goods . . . | 5,65,921 | 37,728 | 6,15,736 | 41,049 | 7,60,664 | 50,711 |

| | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| *Other articles, unmanufactured and manufactured—* | | | | | | |
| Apparel . . . | 10,49,334 | = 69,956 | 10,19,731 | = 67,982 | 13,23,324 | = 88,222 |
| Carriages (including motor cars and cycles) . . | 4,64,279 | 30,952 | 4,23,507 | 28,234 | 5,67,736 | 37,849 |
| Instruments, apparatus, and appliances . | 6,00,469 | 40,031 | 5,49,026 | 36,602 | 6,09,103 | 40,607 |
| Paper and pasteboard | 5,30,883 | 35,392 | 5,75,312 | 38,354 | 6,43,332 | 42,889 |
| Silk, and articles made of silk. . | 16,88,623 | 112,575 | 16,57,722 | 110,515 | 18,09,969 | 1,20,665 |
| Wood and timber, and articles made of wood. . . . | 3,85,719 | 25,715 | 3,87,946 | 25,863 | 4,33,379 | 28,892 |
| Woollen goods. . . | 14,69,588 | 97,972 | 10,32,671 | 68,845 | 14,94,771 | 99,651 |

The gross revenue derived from these twenty-six articles is ₹730·21 lakhs (£4,868,100) or 90·3 per cent of the total.

The import duty on **Cotton fabrics** is 3½ per cent *ad valorem*, and the total revenue realized under this single head was ₹141·77 lakhs (£945,100) as against ₹123·85 lakhs (£825,700) in 1909-10. This is equal to 17·5 per cent of the whole Customs Revenue, as compared with 21 per cent in the previous year. The receipts on account of **Excise duty on cotton fabrics** of Indian manufacture increased from ₹40·06 lakhs (£267,100) to ₹42·69 lakhs (£284,600). This, however, falls outside of Customs Revenue proper. The growth in revenue from spirits, sugar, and silver claims attention.

The **export tariff** schedule is limited to rice and rice-flour, the duty on which is levied at the rate of three annas (or pence) per maund of 82⅔ lbs. The net revenue from this source in 1910-11 was ₹127·68 lakhs (£851,200).

A duty known as the Tea Cess, at the rate of a quarter of a pie (1/48th of a penny) per lb has been levied since 1903 on all Indian tea exported. The sum realised is paid to a committee constituted to receive and expend the proceeds on measures for promoting the sale and consumption of Indian tea. The collection in the first five years averaged ₹3,06,394 (£20,426) per annum. In 1910-11 they rose to ₹3,40,178 (£22,678).

## GOLD AND SILVER

The total **Imports of Treasure** on private account rose from ₹37·43 crores (£24,953,300) to ₹39·70 crores (£26,466,700), and the expansion of ₹2·27 crores (£1,513,300) represented 6 per cent of the earlier year's figure. But whereas the imports of gold increased from ₹25·01 crores (£16,673,300) to ₹27·89 crores (£18,593,300), thus marking an increase of ₹2·88 crores (£1,920,000) or 11·5 per cent, the arrivals of silver at ₹11·81 crores (£7,873,300) showed a decline of ₹60 lakhs (£400,000) or 4·8 per cent.

In the five years ending 1909-10 gold represented 62 per cent, and silver 38 per cent, of the combined imports. In 1910-11 the proportions have been: gold 70·2 per cent and silver 29·8 per cent. The value of the combined Imports including Government transactions has been ₹39·77 crores (£26,513,300) which is greater than in the previous year by ₹2·25 crores (£1,500,000) or 6 per cent.

The **gold** produced in India is all shipped to England for assay; and although it is not necessarily all exported in the year in which it is produced,

it is permissible to deduct its value from the total exports to find the true re-exports. The balance of the imports after deduction of these re-exports may be taken to represent the value of gold absorbed by the country. The following statement is framed to show these factors in **thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling:—**

| | Imports | | Exports: Production | | Exports: Re-exports | | Absorption | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1906-07 | 18,53,34 | = 12,356 | 3,23,37 | = 2,156 | 44,36 | = 295 | 18,08,98 | = 12,061 |
| 1907-08 | 20,75,26 | 13,835 | 3,14,69 | 2,098 | 23,80 | 159 | 20,51,46 | 13,676 |
| 1908-09 | 8,40,42 | 5,603 | 3,17,66 | 2,118 | 87,22 | 581 | 7,53,20 | 5,022 |
| 1909-10 | 25,03,10 | 16,687 | 3,25,02 | 2,167 | 10,13 | 68 | 24,92,97 | 16,619 |
| 1910-11 | 27,89,10 | 18,594 | 3,22,63 | 2,151 | 68,91 | 459 | 27,20,19 | 18,135 |

It will be seen that the imports of gold, which had averaged nearly ₹17·5 crores (£11,600,000) in the previous five years, rose to ₹27·9 crores (£18,600,000) in 1910-11. This is the highest figure ever recorded. The imports have thus had an average monthly value of ₹232·42 lakhs (£1,549,500). In the previous five years the corresponding average was ₹145·78 lakhs (£971,900). Taking this as 100, we find that the figures for 1910-11 represent 159 per cent of the earlier average, and that in the successive months the variations have been as follows: April, 121 per cent; May, 131 per cent; June, 99 per cent; July, 44 per cent; August, 53 per cent; September, 100 per cent; October, 77 per cent; November, 228 per cent; December, 174 per cent; January, 318 per cent; February, 266 per cent; and March, 304 per cent. It will be seen that the increase has lately become accentuated markedly. Production remained practically constant. Deducting that production from the gross exports of ₹391·54 lakhs (£2,610,300), we find that the re-exports, which had averaged ₹2·47 crores (£1·65 millions) in the previous five years and ₹48·67 lakhs (£324,500) in the last two years, rose to ₹68·91 lakhs (£459,000). The apparent absorption is thus ₹27·20 crores (£18·14 millions), as compared with a quinquennial average of ₹15·02 crores (£10·01 millions), and with an average of about ₹16·23 crores (£10·82 millions) in the last two years.

The descriptions of gold imported and exported during the year 1910-11 were as follows, **the unit being 1,000 :—**

| | Imports | | | Exports | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | oz. | ₹ | £ | oz. | ₹ | £ |
| Bullion (bar, ingots, and other uncoined gold) | 2,298 | 14,72,52 | = 9,817 | 582 | 3,31,20 | = 2,208 |
| Sovereigns and other British gold coin | 2,168 | 12,81,05 | 8,540 | 96 | 56,71 | 378 |
| Other coined gold | 61 | 35,53 | 237 | 6 | 3,63 | 24 |
| TOTAL | 4,527 | 27,89,10 | 18,594 | 684 | 3,91,54 | 2,610 |

On Government account, there was no import or export of gold in the year under review, while in the previous year the imports on Government account had been ₹1,35,000 (£9,000) and the exports ₹30,000 (£2,000).

Stated in **ounces,** the net imports and production of gold have been:—

| | Production | Net Imports | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 | 562,622 | 2,377,151 | 2,939,773 |
| 1907-08 | 548,091 | 2,781,340 | 3,329,431 |
| 1908-09 | 551,898 | 625,338 | 1,177,236 |
| 1909-10 | 566,015 | 3,505,136 | 4,071,151 |
| 1910-11 | 565,783 | 3,842,945 | 4,408,728 |

The value of the Imports, Exports, and Net imports of **Silver** on Government and private accounts combined during the last five years was as follows, **the unit being 1,000** :—

| | Imports | | Exports | | Net Imports | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1906-07 . | 26,04,64 | = 17,364 | 2,04,09 | = 1,361 | 24,00,55 | = 16,003 |
| 1907-08 . | 21,53,19 | 14,355 | 2,06,36 | 1,376 | 19,46,83 | 12,979 |
| 1908-09 . | 14,33,99 | 9,560 | 2,27,15 | 1,514 | 12,06,84 | 8,046 |
| 1909-10 . | 12,49,24 | 8,328 | 3,04,75 | 2,032 | 9,44,49 | 6,296 |
| 1910-11 . | 11,88,10 | 7,921 | 3,21,31 | 2,142 | 8,66,79 | 5,779 |

India is not a silver-producing country and therefore the absorption of the metal is represented in the ordinary way, that is to say, by the difference between the imports and exports, which is designated Net Imports. The **imports** of silver on private account during the year amounted to ₹1,181·22 lakhs (£7,874,800) as compared with ₹1,240·85 lakhs (£8,272,300) in the previous year. The monthly average was ₹98·44 lakhs (£656,200), in place of ₹89·38 lakhs (£595,900) in the previous five years. The older average was exceeded in all months except June, September, October, December, and January. The **exports** on private account were larger by about ₹15·93 lakhs (£106,200). They were heaviest in the four months, August, September, November, and February.

The sums represented by imports and by exports of silver on Government account were in the year under review ₹6,87,800 and ₹89,340 against ₹8,39,000 and ₹27,100 respectively in 1909-10.

Including Government transactions the descriptions of silver imported and exported during the year 1910-11 are given below **in thousands of ounces and of rupees and pounds sterling:**

| | Imports | | | | Exports | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | oz. | ₹ | £ | | oz. | ₹ | £ | |
| Bullion (bar) . . . | 67,781 | 11,43,17 | = 7,621 | | 200 | 3,86 | = 26 | |
| Government of India rupees | 1,590 | 42,43 | 283 | | 8,068 | 2,14,91 | 1,433 | |
| Other coins (mostly British Dollars) . . . | 129 | 2,50 | 17 | | 6,128 | 1,02,54 | 683 | |
| TOTAL . | 69,500 | 11,88,10 | 7,921 | | 14,396 | 3,21,31 | 2,142 | |

The exports consist chiefly of Government of India rupees, which circulate extensively in Ceylon, Mauritius, Arabia, Zanzibar, the East African Coast, and the Ports of the Persian Gulf.

The net imports of silver amounted to ₹866·79 lakhs (£5,778,600), which is about 91·8 per cent of the value recorded in 1909-10 and 73 per cent of the gross imports.

The silver coinage struck in the Indian Mints during the last five years was, **the unit being 1,000** :—

| | ₹ | £ | oz. (approximate) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . . | 26,08,57 | = 17,390 | 97,822 |
| 1907-08 . . . | 18,11,57 | 12,077 | 67,934 |
| 1908-09 . . . | 2,85,36 | 1,902 | 10,701 |
| 1909-10 . . . | 2,17,56 | 1,450 | 8,158 |
| 1910-11 . . . | 3,63,69 | 2,424 | 13,638 |

The last column shows the approximate quantity of the coinage calculated at the rate of 8 tolas per 3 ounces. The net imports of silver, stated in **thousands of ounces, were in the same period** :—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1906-07 . . . . . | 118,199 |
| 1907-08 . . . . . | 97,915 |
| 1908-09 . . . . . | 73,740 |
| 1909-10 . . . . . | 61,015 |
| 1910-11 . . . . . | 55,104 |

# BALANCE OF TRADE

The figures appended show *in thousands of rupees and of pounds sterling* the **excess of exports over imports,** including both merchandise and treasure, by sea in each of the last five years :—

| | Including Government transactions | | Excluding Government transactions | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| 1906-07 . . | 20,92,59 = | 13,951 | 47,12,62 = | 31,417 |
| 1907-08 . . | 4,11,13 | 2,741 | 20,08,87 | 13,392 |
| 1908-09 . . | 7,94,11 | 5,294 | 15,08,71 | 10,058 |
| 1909-10 . . | 34,19,54 | 22,797 | 39,79,47 | 26,530 |
| 1910-11 . . | 42,85,88 | 28,573 | 47,19,05 | 31,460 |
| Average of 5 years . | 22,00,65 | 14,671 | 33,85,75 | 22,572 |

In the same years the **drawings of the Council Bills** by the Secretary of State, including those on account of the Gold Standard Reserve, but deducting sterling bills sold in India, have been as follows **in thousands :—**

| | Exchange | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | *d* | ₹ |
| 1906-07 . . | 33,432 | 16·084 | 49,88,75 |
| 1907-08 . . | 15,237 | 16·03 | 22,81,34 |
| 1908-09 . . | 5,927 | 15·964 | 8,91,11 |
| 1909-10 . . | 26,941 | 16·041 | 40,30,58 |
| 1910-11 . . | 26,783 | 16·06 | 40,02,50 |
| Average of 5 years . . | 21,664 | 16·036 | 32,38,86 |

In the five years ending 1910-11, the average excess of exports over imports *including Government transactions* was ₹2,200·65 lakhs (£14,671,000), which represents 11·7 per cent of the average value of exports. In the same period the average drawings of the Secretary of State, as above defined, were ₹3,238·86 lakhs (£21,664,000), being 17·3 per cent of the average value of exports. This sum exceeds the average excess of exports over imports by ₹1,038·21 lakhs (£6,993,000).

*Excluding Government transactions* the average excess of exports over imports was ₹3,385·75 lakhs (£22,571,600), which is equal to 18·1 per cent of the average value of exports. This excess is greater by ₹1,185·10 lakhs (£7,900,700) than the excess found when Government transactions are included and greater by ₹146·89 lakhs (£907,600) than the average amount of drawings as calculated above.

The trade figures given above are incomplete inasmuch as they relate only to the registered trade of British Indian ports. They exclude the value of Government of India securities transferred between India and England, these transfers constituting a not unimportant factor in the balance of trade equation. They also exclude both the absolutely indeterminable volume of private remittances to and from India and the not very inconsiderable value of precious stones and pearls re-exported chiefly from Bombay through the medium of the Post Office. The unregistered trade also consists largely of the unrecorded portion of the trade carried on chiefly by native craft from ports in the Native States on the west coast of India with the Persian Gulf, Arabia, and Ceylon. The trade of the French and Portuguese Settlements may also be considered in this connection as unrecorded Indian trade. Some idea of the

volume of the trade so excluded may be gathered from the appended figures as far as available at present, the **unit** being **1,000 :**

| | 1907-03 | | | | 1908-09 | | | | 1909-10 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Import | | Export | | Import | | Export | | Import | | Export | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| French Settlements | 16,81 | =112 | 105,02 | =700 | 15,49 | =103 | 119,09 | =974 | 20,62 | =137 | 170,25 | =1,135 |
| Settlements | 2,50 | 17 | 4,27 | 28 | 8,57 | 67 | 8,33 | 55 | 3,92 | 26 | 73 | 5 |
| Travancore | 24 | 2 | 12,87 | 86 | 8,49 | 56 | 8,93 | 59 | 11,45 | 76 | 8,16 | 54 |
| Kathiawar | 8,97 | 60 | 7,27 | 48 | 13,93 | 93 | 5,14 | 34 | 17,46 | 116 | 5,11 | 34 |

## BANK RATES AND EXCHANGE

The fluctuations of the money market will be understood from the **discount rates** charged by the Presidency Banks, and from the **rates of Exchange** on demand bills, which are quoted below :—

| | Bank of | | | Rates of Exchange | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bengal | Bombay | Madras | Highest | | Lowest | |
| 1910— | Per cent | Per cent | Per cent | *s.* | *d.* | *s.* | *d.* |
| April | 7 | 7 | 8 | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{32}$ |
| May | 7-6 | 7-6 | 8-7 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{32}$ | 1 | $3\frac{15}{16}$ |
| June | 6-5-4 | 6-5-4 | 7-6-5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | $3\frac{29}{32}$ |
| July | 3 | 4-3 | 5-4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ |
| August | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{16}$ | 1 | $3\frac{31}{32}$ |
| September | 3-4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{16}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{32}$ |
| October | 4-5 | 3-4 | 4 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{16}$ |
| November | 5-6 | 4-5-6 | 4-5-6 | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ |
| December | 7 | 6-7 | 6-7-8 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ |
| 1911— | | | | | | | |
| January | 7 | 7 | 8 | 1 | $4\frac{1}{8}$ | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ |
| February | 7-8 | 7 | 8 | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{16}$ |
| March | 8-7 | 7 | 8 | 1 | $4\frac{3}{32}$ | 1 | $4\frac{1}{16}$ |

## SHIPPING

While the net increase in the value of imports and exports of merchandise by sea amounted to 10·4 per cent of the total for 1909-10, the increase in the tonnage of shipping that entered and cleared at Indian ports was only 2·7 per cent. The improvement in freights, which is shown elsewhere, is therefore comprehensible. The following statement gives the numbers and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels, with cargoes and in ballast, which entered from and cleared to all countries :—

| | No. | Tons | Average tonnage |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1906-07 | 9,329 | 13,775,436 | 1,477 |
| 1907-08 | 9,312 | 14,239,180 | 1,529 |
| 1908-09 | 8,001 | 12,910,823 | 1,614 |
| 1909-10 | 8,042 | 14,597,091 | 1,815 |
| 1910-11 | 8,435 | 14,984,528 | 1,776 |

Of these, 98·5 per cent represented steam tonnage. The total number of **steamers** that entered and cleared was 5,819 with an aggregate burden of 14,764,531 tons as against 5,790 and 14,391,408 tons in the previous year. The average tonnage per steamer increased from 2,485 to 2,537 tons. The rate of increase was about 2·1 per cent. The average tonnage per **sailing ship** decreased from 91 to 84 tons.

The entries from and clearances to the **United Kingdom** were 3,103,788 tons as against 3,135,343 tons in 1909-10; and this reduced quantity represented 20·7 per cent, in place of 21·4 per cent, of the total tonnage.

Entries from and clearances to **British possessions** other than the United Kingdom increased from 5,259,386 tons to 5,673,967 tons which represented 37·8 per cent of the total, as against 36 per cent in the previous year. The tonnage from and to the **British Empire** therefore amounted to 58·5 per cent of the whole in place of 57·4 per cent.

The tonnage under the **British flag,** including the Indian register, represents about 80·5 per cent of the whole, while that registered under the English Merchant Shipping Act was nearly 78·2 per cent.

The number of vessels under **foreign flags** which entered and left Indian ports was 1,046, with an aggregate burden of 2,704,721 tons as against 1,086 in 1909-10 with an aggregate of 2,787,871 tons.

The numbers of vessels under the principal flags are given below :—

| | 1906-07 | 1907-08 | 1908-09 | 1909-10 | 1910-11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| British . . | 4,918 | 4,785 | 4,238 | 4,722 | 4,745 |
| German . . | 371 | 375 | 437 | 455 | 416 |
| Austro-Hungarian | 159 | 157 | 156 | 220 | 208 |
| Norwegian . . | 195 | 188 | 106 | 95 | 103 |
| Japanese . . | 83 | 123 | 79 | 63 | 77 |
| Italian . . | 77 | 79 | 76 | 81 | 84 |
| French . . | 67 | 61 | 55 | 56 | 56 |

## FREIGHTS

The freight market in 1910-11 was stronger and more active than it had been for some years; and such changes of rates as have taken place in homeward freights have been in favour of owners. Coastal freights were also high and latterly became almost prohibitive in respect of coal. The following statement shows the rates per ton for London current at the several ports named during that month of the year in which shipments of the stated article of produce are usually the heaviest:—

| | 1907 | | | 1908 | | | 1909 | | | 1910 | | | 1911 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
| *Calcutta,* Rice—January . | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 9 |
| Wheat—May . | 0 | 17 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Linseed—June . | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Tea—August . | 1 | 16 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 1 | 12 | 6 | ... | | |
| Jute—October . | 1 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 3 | ... | | |
| *Bombay,* Cotton—January . | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Wheat—May . | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Seeds—December . | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | ... | | |
| *Karachi,* Wheat—May . | 0 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 17 | 0 |

## FRONTIER TRADE

The bulk of India's Foreign Trade is seaborne, and the value of the Trade across the land frontiers is commonly equal to about 4·6 per cent of the trade carried by sea. In this Review, it is treated as supplemental of that trade, and is not included in the main totals discussed in the earlier chapters. Although the frontier trade is relatively small, it shows on the whole a progressive tendency, part of which may be due to improved methods of registration.

The **grand total** of merchandise and treasure imported and exported by land in successive years is shown in the statement below. It will be seen that in

1910-11 the total was greater by R183·46 lakhs (£1,223,100) than the average of the previous five years, and by R134·55 lakhs (£897,000) than in 1909-10. The increase in the period of twelve months was therefore greater than 8 per cent.

| | R | £ |
|---|---|---|
| 1905-06 . . . . . | 13,72,04,999 = | 9,146,999 |
| 1906-07 . . . . . | 14,13,90,673 | 9,426,045 |
| 1907-08 . . . . . | 15,54,10,102 | 10,360,674 |
| 1908-09 . . . . . | 15,24,92,089 | 10,166,132 |
| 1909-10 . . . . . | 15,27,37,942 | 10,182,529 |
| 1910-11 . . . . . | 16,61,92,685 | 11,079,512 |

Excluding treasure, we give below the figures relating to **merchandise only** and their distribution according to frontiers and principal countries, **the unit being 1,000:**

| | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | R | £ | R | £ | R | £ |
| | Persia . . . . | 9,55= | 64 | 12,49= | 83 | 12,35= | 82 |
| N.-W. Frontier | Afghanistan— | | | | | | |
| | Southern and Western | 1,14,43 | 763 | 1,21,20 | 808 | 1,18,42 | 789 |
| | Northern and Eastern | 85,78 | 572 | 86,96 | 580 | 94,54 | 630 |
| | Dir, Swat, and Bajaur . | 1,12,42 | 749 | 1,14,45 | 763 | 1,28,20 | 855 |
| | Ladakh . . . . | 2,73 | 18 | 2,06 | 14 | 2,88 | 19 |
| N. and N.-E. Frontier. | Nepal . . . . | 5,08,64 | 3,391 | 4,56,93 | 3,046 | 5,16,84 | 3,446 |
| | Sikkim and Bhutan . | 22,69 | 151 | 22,06 | 147 | 21,36 | 142 |
| | Tibet . . . . | 39,78 | 265 | 26,68 | 178 | 32,79 | 219 |
| Eastern Frontier | Western China . . | 59,12 | 394 | 56,73 | 378 | 64,66 | 431 |
| | North Shan States . | 1,53,99 | 1,027 | 1,72,80 | 1,432 | 1,81,90 | 1,213 |
| | South Shan States . | 1,11,73 | 745 | 1,23,11 | 821 | 1,34,18 | 895 |
| | North Siam . . . | 35,99 | 239 | 40,46 | 270 | 33,23 | 222 |
| | South Siam . . . | 12,69 | 85 | 11,07 | 74 | 13,03 | 87 |
| | Karennee . . . | 18,31 | 122 | 24,29 | 162 | 23,38 | 156 |

## NORTH-WESTERN FRONTIER

**Persia**—The rebate of freight granted by certain Indian railways upon goods for Persia continued in force during the year under review. But the disturbed state of that country and the prevalence of robbery on the trade routes were repressive of business; and on the whole it is surprising that the decline should not exceed R14,000 (£930) or about 1 per cent on the figures of the previous year. The principal *imports* were, as usual, **silk manufactures**; but there was a heavy re-action in this department, the total being R1,29,962 (£8,664) as compared with R1,62,877 (£10,858) in 1909-10. **Cotton manufactures** were formerly the chief item of *export*; and in these the value has increased from R2,19,174 (£14,612) to R2,77,669 (£18,511); while **leather** declined from R2,30,752 (£15,383) to R1,99,437 (£13,296). **Indigo** showed a substantial advance from R1,62,903 (£10,860) to R2,39,673 (£15,978).

**Afghanistan**—Imports declined but exports increased, the former from R95·66 lakhs (£637,700) to R86·89 lakhs (£579,300) and the latter from R112·49 lakhs (£749,900) to R126·07 lakhs (£840,500). The total trade with **Kabul** increased from R86·96 lakhs (£579,700) to R94·54 lakhs (£630,300) which marks an advance of R7·58 lakhs (£50,500) or 8 per cent. *Imports* from Kabul, with a total of R27·29 lakhs (£181,900) in place of R30·52 lakhs (£203,500), declined by R3·23 lakhs (£21,500) or 10 per cent. Among imports from Kabul, the principal item, namely, **fruits and nuts**, amounted to R10·7 lakhs (£71,300), showing a recovery from

the exceptionally low figure of R8·74 lakhs (£58,300) recorded in 1909-10; but **Hides and skins** further declined from R2·27 lakhs (£15,100) to R1·78 lakhs (£11,900). **Ghi** (clarified butter) advanced to R4·71 lakhs (£31,400) as compared with R4·49 lakhs (£29,900) in the previous year. **Drugs and medicines** had a value of only R1·06 lakhs (£7,100) in place of R2·54 lakhs (£16,900). **Live animals** fell from R2·71 lakhs (£18,100) to R1 81 lakhs (£12,100), while **wool** advanced from R1·18 lakhs (£7,900) to R1·39 lakhs (£9,300). Among *exports* to Kabul, **cotton manufactures** retain the first place. The total value of **foreign yarns** rose from R1·74 lakhs (£11,600) to R1·75 lakhs (£11,700), but that of **Indian yarns** fell off from R80,000 (£5,300) to R58,000 (£3,900). In **foreign piecegoods** there was continued expansion which brought the total up from R24·98 lakhs (£166,500) to R35·64 lakhs (£237,600), while **Indian piecegoods** contracted from R4·84 lakhs (£32,300) to R4·44 lakhs (£29,400). Thus the total expansion in **cotton manufactures** is only R10·06 lakhs (£67,100). **Sugar** receded from R4·1 lakhs (£27,300) to R3·45 lakhs (£23,000), and **metals and manufactures of metals** from R1·83 lakhs (£12,200) to R1·79 lakhs (£11,900), while **tea** advanced from R2·98 lakhs (£19,900) to R5·16 lakhs (£34,400). **Indian tea** represented 90 per cent of the total value and increased from R1·74 lakhs (£11,600) to R4·63 lakhs (£30,900); while **foreign tea** fell from R1,24,466 (£8,298) to R52,720 (£3,515). In Indian tea therefore the increase was R2·89 lakhs (£19,300), while the decrease in foreign tea amounted to R71,746 (£4,783). The average value of the Indian tea was about 6 annas (or pence) per pound, and that for foreign tea was 14 annas (or pence). The remarkable increase in the trade in **leather goods** continued and brought the total value up from R5·19 lakhs (£34,600) to R5·37 lakhs (£35,800). The total trade with **Kandahar** amounted to R118·42 lakhs (£789,500) as compared with R121·2 lakhs (£808,000) in 1909-10. The *imports* from Kandahar were represented by R59·6 lakhs (£397,300) in place of R65·14 lakhs (£434,300) in the previous year. Of this, **wool** represents only R30·45 lakhs (£203,000) as against R35·56 lakhs (£237,100) in 1909-10, while **Fruits and nuts** figure at R18·44 lakhs (£122,900) as compared with R19·47 lakhs (£129,800) in the previous year. **Ghi**, at R1·98 lakhs (£13,200), showed a substantial advance on the R1·1 lakhs (£7,300) of the previous year; and the decline of **grain and pulse** to R31,000 (£2,100) is a healthy sign. *Exports* to Kandahar resumed their interrupted progress and advanced from R56·06 lakhs (£373,700) to R58·82 lakhs (£392,100). **Foreign piecegoo** retain the first place, but their total of R24·31 lakhs (£162,100) is substantially lower than the R26·45 lakhs (£176,300) recorded in the previous year and much lower than the R30·62 lakhs (£204,100) of 1908-09. **Indian cotton goods** recovered from R7·07 lakhs (£47,100) to R8·63 lakhs (£57,500), which is little better than the figure of two years ago. **Sugar** increased from R3·28 lakhs (£21,900) to R4·23 lakhs (£28,200), and the value of **leather goods** for Kandahar rose from R1·58 lakhs (£10,500) to R2·07 lakhs (£13,800).

**Dir, Swat, and Bajaur**—After two lean years, the total trade with these territories advanced to R128·2 lakhs (£854,700) in place of R114·45 lakhs (£743,000) in 1909-10. The imports advanced to R57·3 lakhs (£382,000). The improvement in the value of imports from R51·13 lakhs (£340,90^) in the

previous year to R57·3 lakhs (£382,000) was of a similar recuperative character. **Ghi** forms some 27 per cent of the whole, and its value rose from R13·83 lakhs (£92,200) to R15·45 lakhs (£103,000). Imports of **grain** at R11·37 lakhs (£75,800) showed a marked drop from R14·85 lakhs (£99,000) of the previous year, and consisted mainly of husked rice (R6·9 lakhs=£46,000) and unhusked rice (R3·24 lakhs=£21,600). The arrivals of **hides and skins** advanced to R9·65 lakhs (£64,300) from R6·63 lakhs (£44,200) recorded a year before; while **timber** developed to R9·31 lakhs (£62,100) from R6·61 lakhs (£44,100). **Exports** to these countries also increased, the total rising from R63·31 lakhs (£422,100 to R70·9 lakhs (£472,700). The principal item—namely **cotton piecegoods**—advanced slightly from R29·26 lakhs (£195,100) to R29·81 lakhs (£198,700). Of this, R23·11 lakhs (£154,100) represented foreign goods, and only R6·7 lakhs (£44,700) was of Indian origin. **Twist and yarn** amounted to R10·85 lakhs (£72,300) of which R7·45 lakhs (£49,700) was foreign and R3·4 lakhs (£22,700) Indian; while **salt** had a value of R3·41 lakhs (£22,700), **raw cotton** R2·57 lakhs (£17,100), and **sugar** R3·42 lakhs (£22,800). Exports of **tea** amounted to R1·33 lakhs (£8,900) in place of R1·25 lakhs (£8,300) in the previous year. Indian tea, with a total of 312,256 lbs and R1,13,880 (£7,592), showed a large advance on the 153,440 lbs of the previous year. Foreign tea decreased from 90,496 lbs to 32,144 lbs and from R69,410 (£4,627) to R19,500 (£1,300). The proportion of Indian tea on the whole has increased to 86 per cent in place of 45 per cent in the previous year, while its average value is returned as 5·8 annas (or pence) per pound as compared with an average of 9·7 annas (or pence) in the case of the foreign parcels.

**Ladakh**—Ladakh is a junction for Indian trade with Western Tibet on the one hand and with Yarkand and Kashgar on the other. Trade with Ladakh is of small volume. The year under review showed an increase of R82,000 (£5,470) or 40 per cent, the total value being R2·88 lakhs (£19,200) against R2·06 lakhs (£13,700) in the previous year. *Imports* recovered from R1·33 lakhs (£8,900) to R1·65 lakhs (£11,000), while *exports* recovered from R73,000 (£4,900) to R1·24 lakhs (£8,300). **Charas** (a preparation of hemp) represents nearly 57 per cent of the total imports. It decreased in quantity from 983 cwts to 859 cwts, but increased in value from R53,000 (£3,500) to R94,000 (£6,300). Imports of **raw silk** amounted to only 68 cwts with a value of R37,000 (£2,500). On this frontier **Borax** is an important article of trade and its value in the year under review was R2,842 (£189). **Cotton piecegoods** (almost entirely foreign) continue to form the chief item of exportation, the value being R75,520 (£5,030).

## NORTHERN AND NORTH-EASTERN FRONTIER

**Nepal**—The trade with Nepal is larger than that with any other trans-frontier state. In 1910-11 it represented 36 per cent of the whole frontier trade of India, as against 34 per cent in 1909-10. It recovered from R456·93 lakhs (£3,046,200) in 1909-10 to R516·84 lakhs (£3,445,600) in 1910-11. The *imports* at R350·16 lakhs (£2,334,400) showed an advance of some R48·37 lakhs (£322,500) or 14 per cent on the figure of the previous year; while *exports* expanded from R155·15 lakhs (£1,034,300) to R166·68 lakhs (£1,111,200), the increase being R11·53 lakhs (£76,900) or 7 per cent.

The principal articles of trade and their values in the last two years are shown in the subjoined table :—

| | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R | £ | R | £ |
| *Imports to India—* | | | | |
| Rice | 59,26,140 = | 395,076 | 81,98,461 = | 546,564 |
| Paddy | 45,34,719 | 302,315 | 52,34,441 | 348,963 |
| Wheat | 1,30,598 | 8,706 | 2,27,840 | 15,189 |
| Cattle | 22,10,926 | 147,395 | 32,97,799 | 219,857 |
| Linseed | 12,54,579 | 83,639 | 15,97,463 | 106,497 |
| Rape and mustard | 27,55,775 | 183,718 | 25,26,950 | 168,463 |
| Ghi | 23,26,124 | 155,075 | 24,79,694 | 165,313 |
| Jute, raw | 18,68,413 | 124,561 | 9,93,313 | 66,221 |
| Hides and skins | 16,18,524 | 107,902 | 24,32,219 | 162,148 |
| Spices | 8,93,055 | 59,537 | 10,12,685 | 67,512 |
| *Exports from India—* | | | | |
| Cotton piecegoods | 55,38,076 | 369,205 | 58,99,978 | 393,332 |
| „ twist and yarn | 11,94,853 | 79,657 | 13,83,230 | 92,215 |
| Metals | 9,92,284 | 66,152 | 15,70,163 | 104,677 |
| Provisions | 8,81,125 | 58,742 | 9,51,724 | 63,448 |
| Salt | 10,11,343 | 67,423 | 10,72,878 | 71,525 |
| Spices | 9,85,564 | 65,704 | 10,58,897 | 70,593 |
| Sugar | 7,84,950 | 52,330 | 9,07,300 | 60,487 |

Among the major articles of *import* all show increases excepting rape and mustard and raw jute. The increases in the several food grains seem large and form an aggregate advance of R30·69 lakhs (£204,600); but this, like the rise of R10·87 lakhs (£72,500) in cattle, leaves the figures considerably below the levels attained in some earlier years. The decline of R8·75 lakhs (£58,300) in arrivals of raw jute more than counterbalanced the marked and genuine increase in hides and skins; and the improvement of R3·43 lakhs (£22,900) in linseed more than compensates for the fall of R2·29 lakhs (£15,300) in rape and mustard seed. The imports of cattle from Nepal into Bengal represent 71 per cent of the total imports of cattle by land into India; and the number and value expanded in 1910·11 from 45,497 with a value of R21,39,769 (£142,651) to 72,285 with a value of R32,00,624 (£213,375). The expansion was greater in number than in value, the average price per head having subsided from R47 (£3 2*s.* 8*d.*) to R44 (£2 18*s.* 8*d.*). Nepal is the only country from which India imports jute. The importation in the year under review has decreased by 39 per cent in quantity (that is, from 249,586 to 152,683 cwts) and by 47 per cent in value, the average declared values in the last two years being R7-7 annas (9*s.* 11*d.*) and R6-8 annas (8*s.* 8*d.*) per cwt, respectively. Imports of oilseeds improved by 2 per cent in value. Besides the articles enumerated above, there are several of which the value is considerable, as for example, railway materials and dyes of R1·47 lakhs (£9,800) and R5·56 lakhs (£37,100) respectively and timber of R3·41 lakhs (£22,700).

The **exports** to Nepal increased from R155·15 lakhs (£1,034,300) to R166·68 lakhs (£1,111,200), but this is still short of the figure recorded in 1908-09. Cotton piecegoods, as usual, head the list; and in this department there is a substantial increase of about R4 lakhs (£26,700). Yarns, which are mostly of foreign origin, showed a small improvement; and the value of metal exports increased by R5·78 lakhs (£38,500). Salt, spices, and sugar also are all on a higher level than in the previous year.

**Sikkim and Bhutan**—The trade with **Sikkim** slightly declined from R18·55 lakhs (£123,700) to R18·48 lakhs (£123,200), while there is a continuance of the decline in trade with **Bhutan,** the total having fallen from R3·51 lakhs (£23,400) to R2·87 lakhs (£19,100). The two together showed a net decrease of some R70,000 (£4,700) or 3 per cent. Sikkim supplied **grain** to the value of R2·33 lakhs (£15,500) as against R3·4 lakhs (£22,700) in the previous year, while her trade in **fruits,** etc. recovered from R36,000 (£2,400) to R1,20,000 (£8,000). The greater part of the **imports** from **Bhutan** consists of **timber**; and this at R10,752 (£717) showed a small decline on the figures of 1909-10, while her contribution of **fruits,** etc. had fallen from R46,716 (£3,114) to R26,996 (£1,800). The **exports** to **Bhutan** declined considerably, the total value being only R93,679 (£6,245) as compared with R1·57 lakhs (£10,500) in 1909-10. Of these, the most important item was cotton **piecegoods and yarn** (chiefly the former and of foreign manufacture) with a value of R43,000 (£2,870), **silk manufactures** R8,433 (£562), and spices R8,578 (£572). The exports to **Sikkim,** on the other hand, receded from R9·24 lakhs (£61,600) to R8·09 lakhs (£53,900) and consisted chiefly of **grain** valued at R1·76 lakhs (£11,700), **cotton piecegoods and yarn** (chiefly the former) with a value of R2 lakhs (£13,300), and **salt** R36,298 (£2,420).

**Tibet**— Trade with Tibet has to contend with diverse difficulties, the most obvious of which relates to communications. In two successive years it had declined from R40·21 lakhs (£268,100) to R26·68 lakhs (£177,900); and the recovery to R32·79 lakhs (£218,600) recorded in the year under review has not made good that decline. The trade consists of 34 per cent exports and 66 per cent imports. *Exports* to Tibet increased by about 7 per cent (from R10·42 lakhs =£69,500 to R11·21 lakhs =£74,700), the principal articles being as usual **cotton piecegoods,** with a value of R3·48 lakhs (£23,200) in place of R2·57 lakhs (£17,100) in the previous year, and **yarn** with a value of only R1,390 (£93) as compared with R5,157 (£344) in 1909-10. Other articles of relative importance were **grain** to the value of R1·35 lakhs (£9,000) in place of R1·77 lakhs (£11,800), 40 per cent of this being rice, **coral** R11,740 (£783), **woollen manufactures** R86,000 (£5,730), and **metals** R54,000 (£3,600). *Imports* advanced from R16·26 lakhs (£108,400) to R21·58 lakhs (£143,900), the increase being R5·32 lakhs (£35,500) or 31 per cent. The staple of this trade is **wool,** and it showed an increase of 28 per cent in quantity—from 29,158 to 37,806 cwts—and 22 per cent in value - from R9·36 lakhs (£62,400) to R11·68 lakhs (£77,900). Other principal articles were **Borax** R4·88 lakhs (£32,500), **salt** R1·11 lakhs (£7,400), and **horses, ponies, and mules** R37,000 (£2,470).

## EASTERN FRONTIER

**Western China**—The trade with Western China really means the trade of Bhamo with Tengyueh in Yunnan. The total value increased from R56·73 lakhs (£378,200) to R64·66 lakhs (£431,100). *Imports* represent 28 per cent of the whole and increased from R16·12 lakhs (£107,500) to R18·31 lakhs (£122,100); while *Exports* increased by 15 per cent to R46·35 lakhs (£309,000). Among *imports,* **Raw silk** rose from R3·55 lakhs (£23,700) to R4·31 lakhs (£28,700). Imports of **opium** amounted to R67,913 (£4,527) against R76,222 (£5,081) in the previous year. **Hides** decreased from R2·52 lakhs (£16,800) to R2·47 lakhs (£16,500), and **lac** from R19,770 (£1,318) to

R15,160 (£1,011); while imports of **orpiment** increased from R1·46 lakhs (£9,700) to R1·76 lakhs (£11,700), and **live animals** from R2·71 lakhs (£18,100) to R2·87 lakhs (£19,100). *Exports* to Western China increased from R40·61 lakhs (£270,700) to R46·35 lakhs (£309,000). Of this sum **cotton yarns** (all of Indian manufacture) formed 46 per cent as against 39 per cent in the previous year, their value having increased from R16·02 lakhs (£106,800) to R21·34 lakhs (£142,300). On the other hand, **cotton piecegoods** (all of foreign manufacture) decreased from R11·96 lakhs (£79,700) to R10·68 lakhs (£71,200). The other principal items of export were **jadestone** R6·24 lakhs (£41,600), **provisions** R2·63 lakhs (£17,500), **salt** R93,490 (£6,233), and **raw cotton** R33,600 (£2,240). Exports of **petroleum** increased from R61,932 (£4,129) to R62,861 (£4,191).

**Shan States (North and South)**—These States are British territory under local Chiefs; but for convenience of registration they are treated as foreign, and more than two-thirds of the trade across the Eastern statistical frontier relates to them. The trade as a whole increased by R20·17 lakhs (£134,500), that is to say, from R295·91 lakhs (£1,972,700) to R316·08 lakhs (£2,107,200). Of this total, 46 per cent or R144·7 lakhs (£964,700) consisted of exports and 54 per cent or R171·38 lakhs (£1,142,500) of imports. The total trade with the Northern Shan States improved by R9·1 lakhs (£60,700) to R181·9 akhs (£1,212,700), and that with the Southern Shan States increased by R11·07 lakhs (£73,800) to R134·18 lakhs (£894,500). The trade with the **Northern Shan States** consists of R113·32 lakhs (£7,55,500) imports and R68·57 lakhs (£457,100) exports. *Imports* showed a total increase of R9·46 lakhs (£63,100), or 9 per cent to which contributions were made by **leaf-tea** with R14·22 lakhs (£94,800) against R11·91 lakhs (£79,400), **teak** with R10·59 lakhs (£70,600) against R8·07 lakhs (£53,800), and **lac** with R1·19 lakhs (£7,900) against R54,000 (£3,600). **Husked rice** declined from R4·91 lakhs (£32,700) to R3·86 lakhs (£25,700), and **letpet** (pickled tea) from R27·3 lakhs (£182,000) to R24·05 lakhs (£160,300). The *exports* consist mainly of **cotton piecegoods** (almost entirely foreign) with a value of R21·58 lakhs (£143,900) as against R19·79 lakhs (£131,900) in 1909-10, **yarn** (mostly foreign) R7·64 lakhs (£50,900) against R7·68 lakhs (£51,200), **provisions** (of which about two-thirds was fish) R11·14 lakhs (£74,300) against R12·24 lakhs (£81,600), **salt** R3·19 lakhs (£21,300) against R3·47 lakhs (£23,100), **iron** R3·11 lakhs (£20,700) against R2·95 lakhs (£19,700), and **live animals** R2·37 lakhs (£15,800) against R2·08 lakhs (£13,900).

Trade with the **Southern Shan States,** on the other hand, consisted of R58·05 lakhs (£387,000) imports and R76·13 lakhs (£507,500) exports, as compared with R48·52 lakhs (£323,500) and R74·59 lakhs (£497,300) in the previous year. *Imports* showed an increase of R9·53 lakhs (£63,500). **Teak** at R6·7 lakhs (£44,700) and **fruits and vegetables** (other than potatoes) with R3·77 lakhs (£25,100) showed declines. There was improvement in **potatoes** at R2·54 lakhs (£16,900), **hides** at R2·31 lakhs (£15,400), **cattle** with R7·86 lakhs (£52,400), and **horses, ponies and mules** with R5·25 lakhs (£35,000). *Exports* increased by R1·54 lakhs (£10,300). The most important article again is **cotton piecegoods** (mainly foreign), the value of which increased from R39 lakhs (£260,000) to R45·36 lakhs (£302,400), this being 59 per cent of the whole exports. Among other items the following have some importance **betelnuts** with R4·18 lakhs (£27,900) in place of

R4·4 lakhs (£29,300), **yarn** (mostly Indian) with R1·95 lakhs (£13,000) in place of R3·54 lakhs (£23,600), **provisions** (principally fish) with R5·56 lakhs (£37,100), **manufactured silks** with R3·14 lakhs (£20,900), and **metals** with R1·77 lakhs (£11,800), of which iron constituted about one lakh (£6,700).

**North and South Siam.**—The total trade with these two territories amounted to R46·26 lakhs (£308,400) as compared with R51·53 lakhs (£343,500) in 1909-10. The trade with **North Siam** is about three times as great as that with South Siam. It amounts to R33 lakhs (£220,000) and shows a decrease of about R7 lakhs (£46,700) on the figure for the previous year. It consists of 47 per cent imports and 53 per cent exports. The *imports* declined from R21 lakhs (£140,000) to R15·67 lakhs (£104,500), most of the contraction being accounted for by the figures for **teak** which fell from R14·12 lakhs (£94,100) to R9·88 lakhs (£65,900). The other principal items were **cattle** at R4·04 lakhs (£26,900) and other **live animals** at only R88,000 (£5,870). The *exports* showed a smaller decrease from R19·46 lakhs (£129,700) to R17·57 lakhs (£117,100). **Cotton piecegoods** (almost all foreign) decreased from R4·06 lakhs (£27,100) to R3·89 lakhs (£25,900), while **manufactured silk** dropped from R2·56 lakhs (£17,100) to R1·87 lakhs (£12,500). **Yarns** (mostly foreign) with a value of R2·31 lakhs (£15,400) also exceeded that of **silks,** while **apparel** declined from R2·03 lakhs (£13,500) to R1·58 lakhs (£10,500). Trade with **South Siam** amounted to R13·03 lakhs (£86,900) which is about R2 lakhs (£13,300) better than in 1909-10. It consists of 66 per cent imports and 34 per cent exports. *Imports* rose from R6·09 lakhs (£40,600) to R8·68 lakhs (£57,900) and were practically made up of **manufactured silk** at R6·14 lakhs (£40,900) and **live animals** at R1·87 lakhs (£12,500). *Exports* at R4·35 lakhs (£29,000) showed a decline, the only considerable items being **jewellery, etc.** with a value of R1·16 lakhs (£7,700), **manufactured silk** at R63,000 (£4,200), **Metals** R60,000 (£4,000), **cotton piecegoods** R34,000 (£2,300), and **apparel** R31,000 (£2,100).

**Karennee**—The trade with Karennee has a total of about R24 lakhs (£160,000) and seems to have resumed its downward course with a decline amounting in the year under review to 4 per cent. It consists of 87 per cent imports and 13 per cent exports. The *imports* declined from R21·3 lakhs (£142,000) to R20·3 lakhs (£135,300) and consisted mainly of **teak** with a value of R13·76 lakhs (£91,700). Among *exports* the only considerable item was **betelnuts** (R1·01 lakhs = £6,700).

The relative importance of the various articles of trade in the commerce of India with **trans-frontier countries** is shown below. The values are stated in **units of 1,000:**

| | *Imports* | | | | | *Exports* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
| | R | £ | R | £ | | R | £ | R | £ |
| Cattle . . | 34,35 = | 229 | 47,68 = | 318 | Cotton | 4,61 = | 31 | 4,77 = | 32 |
| Other animals . | 40,94 | 273 | 49,16 | 328 | Cotton yarn— | | | | |
| Drugs and medicines (including *charas*—a preparation of hemp) . . | 13,12 | 87 | 11,16 | 74 | Foreign . | 27,65 | 184 | 27,23 | 182 |
| | | | | | Indian . | 28,11 | 187 | 35,75 | 238 |
| Fibrous products (chiefly jute) . | 24,42 | 168 | 16,45 | 110 | Cotton goods— | | | | |
| | | | | | Foreign . | 2,03,13 | 1,354 | 2,25,63 | 1,504 |
| | | | | | Indian . | 43,80 | 292 | 48,03 | 320 |

| | *Imports*—continued | | | | *Exports*—continued | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Fruits, vegetables, and nuts | 42,33 | 282 | 46,18 | 308 | Grain and pulse | 20,28 | 135 | 17,96 | 120 |
| Grain and pulse (chiefly rice) | 1,48,06 | 987 | 1,70,11 | 1,134 | Leather | 12,81 | 85 | 43,09 | 87 |
| Hides and skins | 34,38 | 229 | 47,49 | 317 | Metals (mainly brass, copper, and iron) | 24,91 | 166 | 31,20 | 208 |
| Metals | 35,03 | 233 | 43,03 | 287 | Oils | 18,81 | 125 | 20,90 | 139 |
| Ghi (clarified butter) | 45,60 | 304 | 50,53 | 337 | Provisions | 32,85 | 219 | 31,29 | 209 |
| Pickled tea | 27,33 | 182 | 24,08 | 161 | Salt | 21,85 | 146 | 22,56 | 150 |
| Seeds (chiefly linseed and rapeseed) | 48,51 | 323 | 45,91 | 306 | Silk goods | 8,82 | 59 | 7,89 | 53 |
| Silk | 9,14 | 61 | 13,31 | 89 | Spices | 25,36 | 169 | 29,25 | 195 |
| Spices | 12,98 | 86 | 16,42 | 109 | Sugar | 22,45 | 150 | 25,78 | 172 |
| Tea | 12,30 | 82 | 15,05 | 100 | Tea | 6,91 | 46 | 9,49 | 63 |
| Wood and timber (chiefly teak) | 67,30 | 449 | 59,34 | 396 | Tobacco | 10,63 | 71 | 13,25 | 88 |
| Wool | 51,63 | 344 | 51,12 | 341 | | | | | |
| Woollen goods | 1,86 | 12 | 2,29 | 15 | | | | | |

Since the total value of imports in 1910-11 was ₹9·19 crores (£6,127,000) the centesimal ratio borne to that total by any of the above sums of Indian money may be found approximately by dividing it by 919. In exports the divisor would be 743.

The appended statement shows **in thousands** the measure in which the various provinces participated in the total of the trans-frontier commerce. Here the divisor for 1910-11 must be 1,662.

| | 1906-07 | | 1907-08 | | 1908-09 | | 1909-10 | | 1910-11 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ | ₹ | £ |
| Sind and British Baluchistan | 1,41,30= | 942 | 1,53,96= | 1,026 | 1,44,88= | 966 | 1,49,95= | 1,000 | 1,51,43= | 1,010 |
| North-West Frontier Province | 2,52,03 | 1,680 | 2,68,05 | 1,787 | 2,61,35 | 1,742 | 2,62,29 | 1,749 | 2,93,85 | 1,959 |
| Panjab | 11,04 | 74 | 13,77 | 92 | 6,10 | 41 | 5,78 | 38 | 7,18 | 48 |
| United Provinces of Agra and Oudh | 1,81,29 | 1,209 | 1,87,82 | 1,252 | 1,97,57 | 1,317 | 2,05,90 | 1,373 | 1,92,23 | 1,282 |
| Bengal | 3,23,73 | 2,158 | 3,88,91 | 2,593 | 3,90,84 | 2,606 | 3,30,59 | 2,204 | 4,06,34 | 27,09 |
| Eastern Bengal and Assam | 16,63 | 111 | 7,68 | 51 | 6,85 | 46 | 4,81 | 32 | 5,39 | 36 |
| Burma | 4,87,88 | 3,253 | 5,33,90 | 3,559 | 5,17,33 | 3,449 | 5,68,06 | 3,787 | 6,05,51 | 4,037 |

## COASTING TRADE

Merchandise carried by sea from one part of India to another appears first under exports and again under imports; so it might be expected that the total of the two would be approximately double the dimensions of the single transaction. But the figures comprise such exchanges with ports in Indian Native States and Foreign Settlements as appear in the statistics of British India only as imports or as exports. It has therefore been the practice to state in this Review the net value of the coasting trade as arrived at by adding, to the value of the imports into British ports from other British ports, the sum of the imports and exports in the trade between British and non-British ports in India.

The value so calculated in respect of 1910–11 is for **merchandise** ₹59·44 crores (£39,627,000) as against ₹58·19 crores (£38,793,000) in the previous year, the increase being ₹1·25 crores (£833,000) or 2·1 per cent. **Food grains** represented 18·3 per cent of the total with a value of ₹10·85 crores (£7,233,000), the decrease being ₹4·21 crores (£2,807,000). Of the total value of food grains, **rice** represented 73·5 per cent. Details regarding the distribution of this trade are given in that article in the section relating to exports which deals with the rice trade as a whole. It need only be mentioned here that the total exports from Burma to Indian ports amounted to 550,000 tons which marks a decrease of 488,000 tons on the figures of the previous year. The exports of **mineral oil** from Burma to Indian ports rose from 88·9 to 101·9 million gallons. The quantity taken by Calcutta for distribution by sea to other ports increased from 47·5 to 54·8 million gallons, the direct shipments from Burma to other provinces being : Bombay 17·5 million gallons, Madras 14·6 millions, Eastern Bengal and Assam 8·7 millions, and Sind 3·5 millions. In regard to mineral oil also, details are given in the appropriate part of the section relating to exports. Burma's predominance as a source of rice and of mineral oil for Indian consumption brings her total coasting exports to 31·2 per cent of the coasting exports of all British India in Indian merchandise. The coastal exports of **jute bags** from Calcutta increased in value from ₹184·1 lakhs (£1,227,000) to ₹190·7 lakhs (£1,271,000), but in quantity they decreased from 73·5 to 72·8 million bags. Of these Burma took 37·9 million bags, Bombay 18·8 millions, Madras 5·4 millions, and Sind 8·9 millions. All but Burma also took large quantities by rail. The expansion in the coastal shipments of **Bengal coal** was one of 133,000 tons, bringing the total to 2,210,000 tons. Shipments of Indian-made cotton **piecegoods** from the Bombay Presidency to other parts of India had in the previous year amounted to 256 million yards with a value of ₹417·2 lakhs (£2,781,000) ; but in spite of the country's prosperity and the great activity of the weaving mills, the quantity available for shipment declined to 247·7 million yards with a value of ₹419 lakhs (£2,793,000), the decrease being 8·3 million yards or 3·2 per cent in quantity with an increase of ₹1·8 lakhs (£12,000) or ·4 per cent in value. The increase in average value per unit is apparently only 3·9 per cent and this suggests that high prices had relatively intensified the demand for the cheaper grades. The following figures show the distribution of the shipments from Bombay in the last two years, and indicate that Madras was the only province that increased her demand :—

| | 1909-10 | | | 1910-11 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Yards | ₹ | £ | Yards | ₹ | £ |
| Bengal . . . | 68,184,777 | 1,23,77,632= | 825,175 | 59,895,883 | 1,10,66,635= | 737,776 |
| Sind . . . | 169,588,572 | 2,61,88,586 | 1,745,906 | 169,085,247 | 2,75,24,239 | 1,834,949 |
| Madras . . . | 2,532,769 | 4,63,530 | 30,902 | 2,876,479 | 5,19,960 | 34,664 |
| Burma . . . | 11,321,917 | 20,15,616 | 134,374 | 10,345,486 | 19,60,312 | 130,687 |

Coastal shipments of **raw cotton** from Bombay, which in the previous year stood at 176,544 cwts and ₹49·28 lakhs (£328,000), increased to 181,322 cwts and ₹70·66 lakhs (£471,000) in 1910-11, Bengal taking 48,990 cwts in place of 33,830 cwts, while Kathiawar lowered its demand from 67,410 to 33,595 cwts. Sind shipped more than in 1909-10, almost the whole of its 465,777 cwts going to Bombay, less some 1,600 cwts for Bengal.

## RAILWAY GOODS TRAFFIC

This is a valuable indicator of the volume of total trade. The following statement reflects the shortage of export crops and the contraction in import trade. It shows (*in thousands of unit*) the **ton-mileage** of goods traffic on the principal railways of India during the last five years :

| | | Increase + or Decrease— | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Units | Units | Per cent | |
| 1906 . . . . | 10,052,132 | + 791,380 | or + 8·5 | per cent |
| 1907 . . . . | 11,103,514 | +1,051,382 | „ +10·4 | „ |
| 1908 . . . . | 10,199,399 | — 904,115 | „ — 8·1 | „ |
| 1909 . . . | 10,951,715 | + 752,316 | „ + 7·4 | „ |
| 1910 . . . . | 12,079,013 | +1,127,298 | „ +10·3 | „ |

The figures below show the number of goods wagons at work in India at the close of each of the last five years and the additions made in each year :

| | No. | Addition | | Percentage increase |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1906 . . . . | 115,686 | 4,316 | or | 3·9 |
| 1907 . . . . | 124,094 | 8,408 | „ | 7·3 |
| 1908 . . . . | 136,318 | 12,224 | „ | 9·8 |
| 1909 . . . . | 145,535 | 9,217 | „ | 6·8 |
| 1910 . . . . | 149,628 | 4,093 | „ | 2·8 |

The total increase in the period of four years is therefore 29·4 per cent. Comparison of this percentage with the increase of 20·2 per cent in the ton mileage shows a simultaneous decrease in the ton miles per wagon from 86,891 to 80,727, the decline being one of 7·1 per cent.

Reference may be made to the article dealing with imports of Railway Material.

## PRICES

The following statement shows the course of **Indian Rupee Prices** of thirty-nine commodities imported into, exported from, and consumed in India, during the last five years as compared with the standard year 1873. The figures represent simple percentages of the average prices so far as available, obtained by expressing the price of each article in each year as a percentage of the price for the year 1873, which latter price is represented by 100.

Certain articles that appear to have something in common have been grouped together with the following result :—

| | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 | 1910 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Food grains :— wheat, rice, jawar, bajra, barley, gram, and ragi . . . . . | 176 | 181 | 226 | 193 | 155 |
| 2. Other food :—ghi and salt . . . . | 82 | 96 | 94 | 81 | 90 |
| 3. Sugar and tea . . . . . | 68 | 78 | 80 | 78 | 85 |
| (1—3) Food . . . . . | 133 | 141 | 167 | 146 | 127 |
| 4. Minerals :— Iron, copper, spelter, and coal . . | 119 | 134 | 135 | 124 | 123 |
| 5. Textiles :—Cotton, silk, jute and wool . . | 122 | 127 | 108 | 96 | 108 |
| 6. Sundry materials :— Hides and skins, indigo, kerosene, lac, saltpetre, and seeds . . . | 136 | 143 | 138 | 127 | 131 |
| (4—6) Materials . . . . . | 127 | 135 | 126 | 114 | 120 |
| (1—6) General average . . . . | 129 | 137 | 139 | 124 | 122 |

The general average is drawn from all thirty-nine descriptions, which are treated as of equal value, and is the simple arithmetical mean as shown above.

CALCUTTA,
*June 13, 1911.*

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*Director-General of Commercial Intelligence*

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Digitized with financial assistance from

Government of Maharashtra

on 01 February, 2020